

Pleasanton Weekly

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Artist blends history and activism in paintings

Carolyn Lord's watercolors feature landmarks of the past and present

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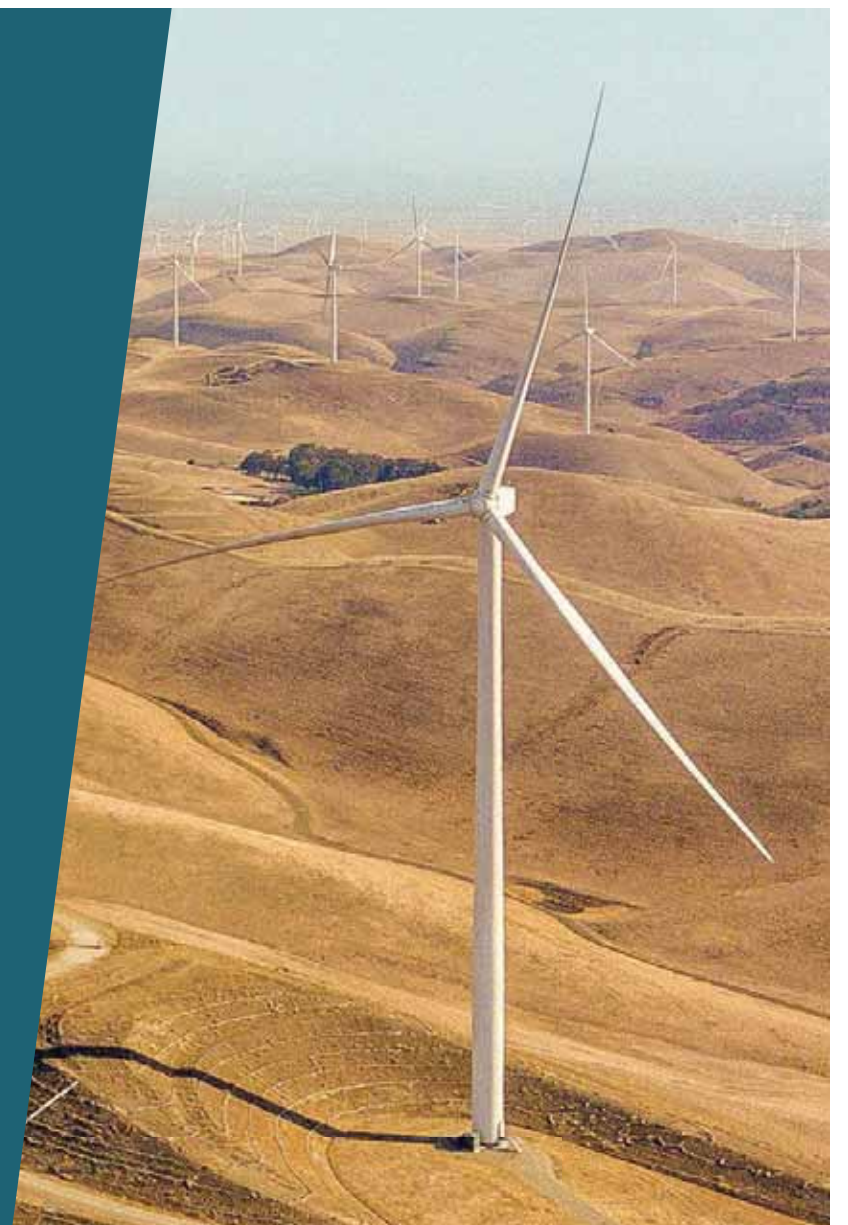
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VALLEY VIEWS



BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

The aroma of reading

Digital books are practical. Get a good recommendation? Just minutes later, you can be reading it.

But print books appeal to the senses — the heft of a volume, the pages brushing your fingertips, and of course the “bibliosmia.” This is a new word for me; it means the aroma of a good book.

After 22 months of the pandemic, the “covid” books are appearing more and more — books either about the phenomenon itself or produced during this time by writers determined to have something to show for their time in isolation.

Covid books also include the appropriate old classics that we all dug out again to read, such as Albert Camus’ “The Plague.”

Another one was “Blindness” by Jose Saramago, which I also read years ago, that tells of an epidemic that causes blindness to quickly spread around the world. “This is an important book, one that is unafraid to face all of the horrors of the century,” the Washington Post stated, but I declined to reread it as these days I myself am “afraid to face” said horrors.

I delve into problems via newspapers and magazines but right now with books I want distraction. Which brings me back to writers who used the quarantine to be productive. One such local author is Elaine Drew.

Elaine and I talked in the spring when she was making a presentation to Pleasanton Art League members about the fun of cartooning. But I knew she was also a writer because she handles publicity for Tri-Valley Writers. Then we received a press release about her new book, “Nun Too Clever,” which came out in early December.

“We all had our own coping strategies for getting through the Pandemic,” she stated. “Mine was to write a book.”

“Nun Too Clever” provides an escape to the Middle Ages for a fun romp with feisty Queen Cynethrith, her warrior husband King Egbert, and an assortment of entertaining characters. The tale unfolds of a dead nun, a stolen precious relic, and a missing village girl — the queen wants to sort it all out before bossy King Egbert returns from the battlefield and gets all the credit.

“This is a sequel,” Elaine said. “The other one, ‘Courting Trouble,’ is the back story of how they got together. The idea behind that one



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Elaine Drew of Pleasanton recently released ‘Nun Too Clever.’

was to take the Cinderella myth and turn it on its head.”

“Courting Trouble,” published in 2018, was romantic comedy, she explained, while “Nun Too Clever” is a mystery.

“This was something to focus on that put me in another era,” Elaine said. “I figured I needed some escapism and created this other world to live in.”

The humorous characters also lightened up her life a bit.

“I thought maybe other people could use a little humor right now,” she said.

Elaine became interested in medieval times when her family moved to England in 1989 to stay for four years in Easton, a village near Winchester near Hampshire. A dig was taking place at her children’s school and she began to research the Anglo Saxon era, even attending archeology classes at Southampton University.

“This era was calling to me,” she said. “I always loved anything medieval anyway, like medieval embroidery, and uncial script.”

“There are hints in the history of the early 600s that women had a lot of autonomy,” Elaine noted, which led to the independent and spicy Queen Cynethrith, whose story takes place in 810. “They were much more comfortable with sex before Christianity got entrenched and they became dogmatic with their rules.”

“Nun Too Clever” is available in paperback or Kindle. That brings us back to the original question: printed book or digital?

AARP just sent out “Worst Six Habits for your Eyes,” which include staring at phone, computer or TV screens without a break. This tilts me toward reading words on a printed page — and a healthy dose of bibliosmia. ■

Editor’s note: Dolores Fox Ciardelli is Tri-Valley Life editor for the Pleasanton Weekly.

About the Cover

Carolyn Lord has lived in Livermore since 1980 and depicts the city’s rich history in her art. Photo by Cierra Bailey. Design by Paul Llewellyn.

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2022 STATE OF THE MARKET

The Pleasanton real estate market began 2022 in uncharted waters with only 4 active and available homes on the market, which is the lowest level that I have witnessed in my 27-year career. We have seen a downward trend in overall inventory levels over the last several years and expect this trend to continue into and through 2022. Buyer demand, however, has remained very strong and is expected to continue through 2022, which points to a strong seller’s market and further increases in property values. Interest rates are expected to increase this year due to the record high rate of inflation and could have a cooling effect on the market if they reach a high enough level to have a major impact on a buyer’s ability to qualify or afford a home. 2022 promises to be an interesting year in real estate and everywhere else.

If you have a real estate related question or need, please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to answer your question or assist you.

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What “normal” activity are you most looking forward to getting back to once COVID is behind us?



Jordan Smail (with Zin)
Accountant

I can't wait to pick up a bowling ball and go bowling again, and to resume my co-ed league play. I really miss spending time with my teammates and opponents.



James Howard
Retired

I can't wait to be able to take my 8-year-old grandson to children's movies again where I can spend time with him and be surrounded by tons of other kids. I miss all of the liveliness, commotion and noise that goes along with being around young children.



Nicole Moura
Program manager

I'm looking forward to being able to go to Trader Joe's without having to wear a mask, so that I can connect and engage with all of the employees, and try out every single sample.



Matt Dennis
Software testing

I'm eager to be able to attend heavily-populated festivals like our town's wine strolls and beer crawls. And of course that huge, annual, animal adoption event at the fairgrounds. Pretty much anything where people can engage with one another in three dimensions rather than just virtually/on-line.



Sergio Hernandez
Business systems analyst

I can't wait to get back to the office regularly, where I can collaborate in person with my colleagues. When we are able to get together like that I can learn more in 15 minutes than in several hours of Zoom meetings.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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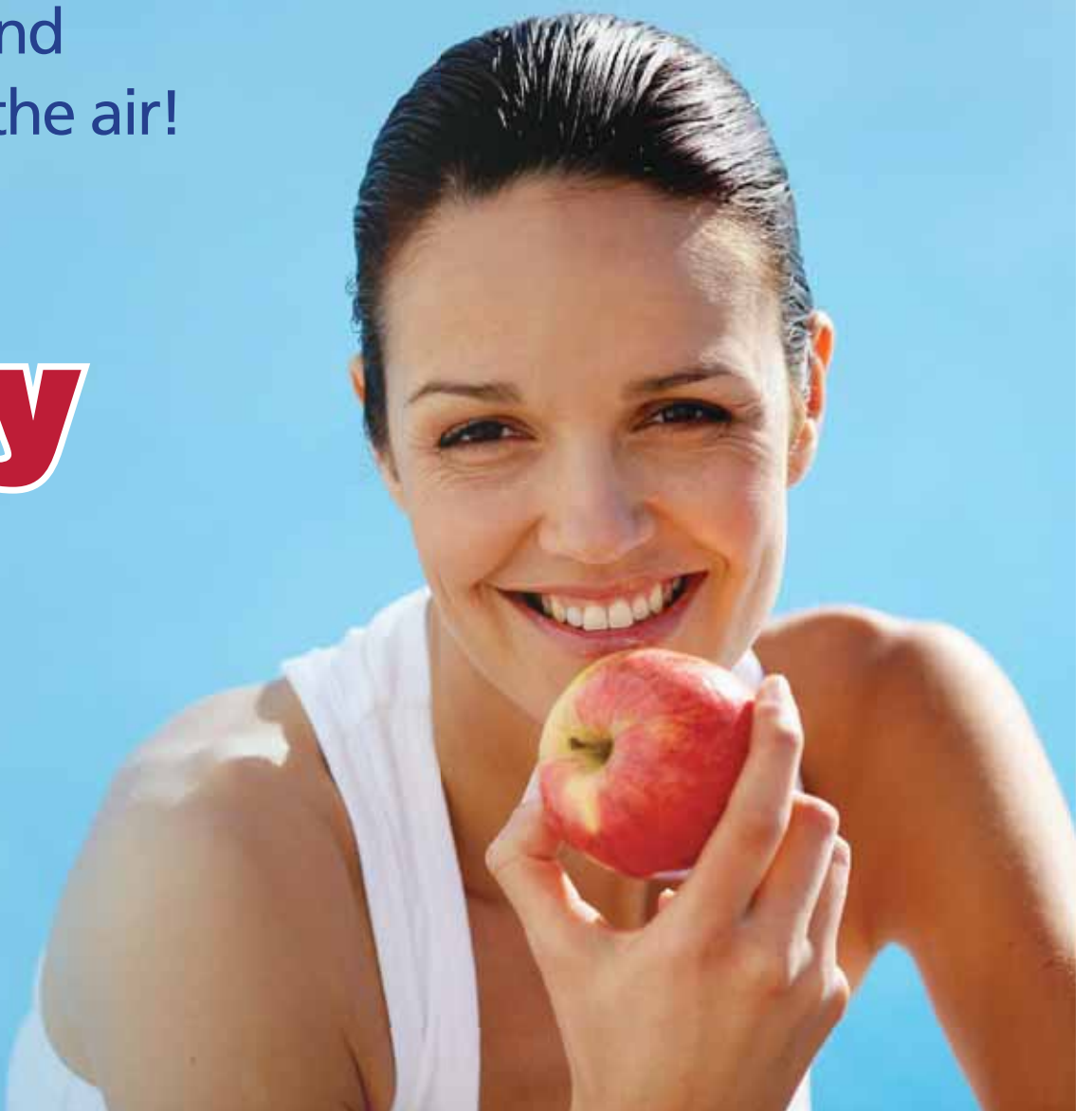
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DIGEST

DSRSD promotes principal engineer

Longtime Dublin San Ramon Services District employee Steve Delight was officially promoted as the district's new permanent engineer services director and district engineer on Monday.

"I'm excited to work with the cities and customers we serve and our partner agencies," Delight said in a statement. "I look forward to continuing our asset management efforts to make sure we replace infrastructure at the right time to ensure we are using ratepayers' funds wisely."

Delight is taking over from Judy Zavadil, who retired from the position last month, after serving as acting engineering services director since Dec. 7. According to the district, the engineering services director is responsible for planning, permitting, capital improvements, asset management, and clean water and water conservation programs.

Previously a principal engineer and supervisor of the district's Capital Improvement Program Division, Delight joined DSRSD in 2000 and "has a wide array of experience managing many capital projects."

A licensed professional engineer, Delight holds bachelor and master degrees in civil engineering from California State University, Chico, and San Jose State University, respectively.

East Bay Parks launches new website

The East Bay Regional Park District's new public website was unveiled last month, and features upgrades aimed at improving accessibility and transparency.

Officials launched the new site on Dec. 20. Users can expect increased accessibility and to find information more easily on the website, along with a tool that can quickly translate information into 17 languages. To learn more, visit www.ebparcs.org.

Holiday tree recycling

Dublin residents can still make arrangements for a holiday tree pickup by local Boy Scouts Troop 905 on Saturday. Reservations are required for pickup on Jan. 8, as well as a \$10 donation per tree. For more information, visit dublinfoot905.org.

Amador Valley Industries will also collect holiday trees from customers on their regular service day, from Jan. 10 to 21.

StopWaste is reminding people to "tree-cycle responsibly" by removing all tinsel, decorations, stands, and lights before putting their trees out for curbside pickup. ■

Pleasanton council holds first district map public hearing

Future growth and conflicts of interest are questioned in drawing election boundaries

By JULIA BAUM

The Pleasanton City Council held the first of several legally mandated public hearings on Tuesday before city officials will draw up new council districts and switch from at-large to district elections.

In September, the council agreed to transition to district elections, which will ultimately divide the city into districts, with each area being represented by a council member who lives inside those boundaries. The mayor will continue to remain at-large and be elected by all voters in Pleasanton.

At least two public meetings must be held within 30 days of each other before drawing any district map, according to state law. A staff report estimates \$50,000 will be spent for outside legal counsel

and a demographer to help draft district boundaries. Using council feedback and public input, one or more maps will be drafted and eventually brought back for final approval.

Each district must have approximately the same population, cannot have race be the primary factor, and should also be geographically contiguous "to the extent practicable" and "respect the geographic integrity of any local neighborhood or local community of interest."

The council also cannot adopt district boundaries "for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party."

Mayor Karla Brown said at the Jan. 4 council meeting, "We received numerous emails from residents saying they did not like the idea of districting and they did not

want us to pursue districting," but the city doesn't have much chance of fighting the matter in court. Brown said the city of Santa Monica has already spent \$22 million without any success, and that "we're not going to be frivolous with taxpayer dollars in an unlikely litigation."

During the public hearing on Tuesday, one resident asked what would happen if nobody ran for election in one of the districts and was told it would be handled by the council through their appointment process.

Another speaker asked how the city came up with criteria to divide Pleasanton into four districts. Demographer Michael Wagaman said the number of proposed districts are based on the size of the current city council, but there is also the matter of "how those criteria are

applied and what are those decisions, what are those communities of interest."

"That's what this process is, is really identifying how those criteria that are coming down from the state really apply within the unique demographics of and unique situation of your city," Wagaman said.

Brown asked whether preferences for sitting council members are allowed, and was told that state law uses and applies an order of priority, but does not prohibit incumbents from being considered.

"It is frustrating as an elected official to say I'm only really going to focus on one neighborhood when I'm running for office knowing those are the only people who can vote and elect me," Brown said.

See **DISTRICT MAP** on Page 10

Former Livermore mayor, WWII veteran Dr. John Shirley dies at age 97

City Council Chambers dedicated in Shirley's honor in 2019

By GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Former Livermore Mayor, World War II veteran and veterinarian Dr. John Shirley died Dec. 22 at the age of 97. He was born Dec. 8, 1924, in Santa Ana, California.

Shirley served on the Livermore City Council from 1958 to 1966, including two years as the council-chosen mayor from 1962-1964. In July 2019, Dr. Shirley was honored at a dedication ceremony for the new Dr. John Shirley City Council Chamber.

After serving in the U.S. Army in World War II, he attended UC Davis and then became Livermore's first veterinarian, practicing there from 1954 to 1987.

He also had a long record of volunteer service, including many years as a member of the Livermore Rotary Club, which established the John Shirley Exceptional Service Award in his honor.

"It is so fitting that the new council chamber is named in honor of Dr. Shirley," said Mayor Bob Woerner. "He was dedicated to making Livermore the best it could be through his civil service on the council and volunteer service with the Livermore



Former Livermore mayor John Shirley sits at the dais in the Livermore City Council Chambers named in his honor in 2019.

Rotary Club, among many other avenues in which he served the community.

Livermore flags were flown at half-staff from Dec. 24 to 26 in honor of Shirley.

"We will continue to honor him in the council chamber that

bears his name and where decisions will continue to be made to make Livermore the best it can be," Woerner continued. "Our deepest condolences go to Dr. Shirley's family and to all those he inspired throughout his remarkable life." ■

Awaiting noise data

City asks for report before KaiserAir review

The city of Pleasanton says it expects to receive the results of the latest Livermore Municipal Airport noise study, conducted in the last half of 2021, by the end of January.

The data for what's called "single event noise" events, sound that is generated in a short time period likely by a single aircraft, is useful because such events are the source of most complaints reported by residents, many of whom are concerned about a pending expansion request from KaiserAir.

KaiserAir, which operates out of Oakland and Santa Rosa, wants to add a 45-acre maintenance facility that would bring three Boeing 737s and other charter aircraft to Livermore. The company estimates about 100 737 flights would occur annually.

When completed, the facility would include a 6.5-acre concrete apron, offices, a terminal, hangar space, maintenance service facilities, a self-fueling station, and fuel storage facilities. KaiserAir states that it plans to store and service aircraft used for charter flights out of Oakland and Sonoma County airports. The expansion would provide the city of Livermore

See **NOISE** on Page 10

Dublin Council gives final approval for East Ranch project despite school district concerns

By JEANITA LYMAN

As an item on their consent agenda on Dec. 21, the Dublin City Council gave final approval to an ambitious, 500-plus unit housing development on more than 150 acres in the eastern portion of the city.

The action was a quick resolution to what had been a process filled with lengthy discussions and concerns raised by numerous community members at previous Planning Commission and council meetings on the project.

The unanimous council vote on the consent agenda marked the final approval for the East Ranch Project, set to consist of 573 housing units on 165 acres in eastern Dublin.

Although consent agenda items are typically routine in nature, the East Ranch Project's ambitious plan meant that it had met its fair share of controversy leading up to the council's final approval. On Dec. 17, ahead of the Dec. 21 meeting and following a council meeting filled with public comments on the proposal on Dec. 7, Harold Freiman, legal counsel for the Dublin Unified School District sent a letter to the council that emphasized the district's concerns with the project.

Freiman alleged that "substantial changes in circumstances under which the project is to be

undertaken have occurred, requiring further environmental review," and is meant to challenge the council's previous decision at the Dec. 7 meeting, in which they approved an exemption to the California Environmental Quality Act for the project. It cites a point raised by the council at that meeting, that the exemption in question is only valid if there are not such substantial changes.

Freiman proceeded to argue that a previous letter sent to the council on Dec. 7 supported the claim that there have been substantial changes in circumstances since the East Dublin Specific Plan (EDSP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was put into effect, and called for additional environmental reviews and updates.

"For this project, the City is relying on data from 28 years ago to justify exempting the project from further environmental review," Freiman wrote. "As demonstrated by the Dec. 7 letter, the city and district have both changed in such a way that the circumstances under which the project is to be undertaken have changed substantially, new information and mitigation measures not previously known are now available, and there are a multitude of impacts that the EDSP EIRs fail to address, thus requiring further environmental review."

Freiman cited a disparity between the city's prediction for enrollment in the district in its most recent General Plan, which totaled 9,755 students, and the district's School Facilities Needs Analysis, which sees 12,770 students in district schools, and pointed to an existing 1,243 seat deficit.

"These numbers alone demonstrate that the district's enrollment has substantially outpaced the previously relied upon student projections by some 3,015 students," Freiman wrote. "Based on the city's website, the East Dublin Specific Plan Area is still expected to produce another 1,720 residential units, and the General Plan estimates a remaining 4,348 residential units to be built."

Dublin councilmember Shawn Kumagai said that he and others on the council had read and considered the Dec. 17 letter, but continued to disagree with the assessment of the situation.

"The central premise of their letter is that we need to reinstate an EIR," Kumagai said. "All I will say is that one, we do not have to do another EIR, and two, doing another EIR is not going to change, fundamentally, the fee structure for mitigation to school impacts. That is set at the state level and no EIR is going to change that. So what I don't want is for people to conflate



The site for the proposed East Ranch project in Dublin. The project, which has received the city council's approval, will consist of 573 housing units on 165 acres.

the EIR process with the school impact fee process, and what was made very clear in the meeting is that we cannot deny a project based off of impacts to schools."

Kumagai said that while he personally liked the project and was optimistic about what it would bring to the area, the council's decision had been based on fulfilling their duties rather than personal

preferences.

"We really had very little discretion about whether we approved it," Kumagai said.

He added that while the large number of units featured in the project are hard to ignore, this was the number of units that the city had considered and decided upon

See **EAST RANCH** on Page 7

Lawmakers call for vaccination or negative test requirement for domestic air travel

Group includes Sen. Dianne Feinstein, Rep. Eric Swalwell

A group of Democratic lawmakers including Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) recently wrote a letter calling for a requirement that domestic air passengers show proof of their full COVID-19 vaccination status or a recent negative test.

Feinstein and Swalwell joined Reps. Ritchie Torres (D-New York) and Don Beyer (D-Virginia) in sending the letter to U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky and Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Steve Dickson.

The four lawmakers noted that both proof of COVID-19 vaccination and a negative test is already required for people coming to the U.S. from a foreign country, but domestic travelers are not even required to show that they have recently tested negative for the virus.

Proof of vaccination or a negative test are also required for domestic travelers flying to Hawaii, otherwise they are required to quarantine after arriving.

"Ensuring the health and safety of air travelers and their destination communities is critical to mitigating the ongoing COVID-19 surge, especially as the virus continues to evolve," they said in the letter.

Last month, the four lawmakers and 32 other members of Congress wrote a letter to President Joe Biden also calling for a vaccination and negative test requirement.

Feinstein has also introduced a bill that would require airlines to confirm that their passengers are fully vaccinated, have tested negative or are fully recovered from the virus.

On Monday, Swalwell said in a Twitter post that it is "one-hundred percent batty" that unvaccinated people have carte blanche to fly domestic.

"It's unsafe in the cabin and we are transporting the virus,"

Swalwell said. "Requiring the vaccine to fly is the LEAST we can do to stop the spread."

A mid-November Harris Poll survey of roughly 2,000 U.S. adults found that 66% were in favor of airlines requiring proof of vaccination to board a domestic flight.

Last month, U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg suggested in an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press" that such a mandate was not imminent and that current measures like mask requirements when flying and in airports and vaccine requirements for those in the travel industry were enough to keep passengers safe.

"What we're doing right now is working to make air travel safe," he said. "It's a little bit of a different picture, of course, when you have international travel because different countries have different standards ... but between the masking and the other mitigations, we're very confident in the safety of air travel." ■

— Eli Walsh / BCN Foundation

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LVJUSD wins Golden Bell Award for African American Scholars Program

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) was awarded a Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association for its African American Scholars Program for high schoolers.

The African American Scholars Program is the first of its kind in the Tri-Valley and has inspired the development of similar programs in surrounding districts, LVJUSD officials said.

The initiative was recognized with the award in early December as “an outstanding program in Equity and Access.” According to a description on the state School Boards Association website, programs awarded in this category “put into action the belief that all students can learn when they have access to high-quality education programs and the support they need to succeed.”

“The African American Scholars project was designed in 2016 to provide Black/African American

students with a safe space to talk about their social and emotional wellbeing in school and in their community,” said Roxana Mohammed, a vice principal at Livermore High School where the program initially launched before expanding to Granada High School.

“The program saw great success in access to school and college-readiness and a connection to the school community,” she continued. “Students are able to discuss topics such as social media, politics, entrepreneurship, entertainment, college, environment and mindfulness.”

The primary purpose of the program is to engage and connect and/or reconnect African American students and their families through a combination of bi-monthly sessions for students and monthly engagement opportunities for

families, LVJUSD officials said.

“The facilitators of AASP use their vast network to bring in panelists, special guest speakers and local alumni who are making an impact in our society,” Mohammed said. “They also facilitate activities to help students build community and networks. Finally, they provide resources to help students prepare for life beyond high school both academically and socially,” she added. Mohammed also said that although the group was created with African American students in mind, all students have the ability to be a part of the program.

“We are truly honored to receive the Golden Bell for this program. When students feel connected, they are set up for greater success both socially and academically,” said LVJUSD Superintendent Kelly Bowers. ■



LVJUSD
Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's African American Scholars Program was awarded a Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association.

EAST RANCH

Continued from Page 6

in plans and studies for the area.

“It is largely a compliant project and something that has been in our plans for decades,” Kumagai said. “So, it’s an important piece of our overall buildout strategy.”

Kumagai added that beyond the number of units, and its compliance with the city’s existing plans for the area, the project has other desirable qualities that he hoped would benefit the surrounding area.

“A lot of folks came out and spoke against it from the neighboring communities, but what I would say is that they will have additional infrastructure, parks and roads, and that is going to really help their communities,” Kumagai said.

As proposed, the East Ranch Project is set to consist of six neighborhoods, with two parks, and 72 affordable units throughout the development. In the proposal approved by the council, the developer, Trumark Homes, is also set to allocate two acres for additional affordable housing. Trumark is additionally set to pay in-lieu fees for 25 affordable housing units.

Trumark first unveiled its plans for the area in a study session in the fall of 2019, proceeding to file a formal development application in 2020.

The next step for the proposed project is for Trumark to return to the Planning Commission for the permit application process required for each of the six projected neighborhoods. Developers are hoping for units to be on the market by the end of 2024. ■



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All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly unless the boxes below are checked.

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** Donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cooper's \$1.6B deal

San Ramon-based medical device firm CooperCompanies last month signed a definitive purchase agreement to acquire reproductive sciences company Generate Life Sciences for \$1.6 billion in a deal expected to close in the first fiscal quarter of next year, subject to closing conditions and regulatory approval.

Generate Life Sciences, headquartered in Los Angeles, is a leading provider of donor egg and sperm for fertility treatments, fertility cryopreservation services and newborn stem cell storage.

"This acquisition is a strong strategic fit for CooperSurgical as it allows us to better serve fertility clinics and OB/GYNs with a more extensive suite of products and services," Cooper CEO/President Al White said in a statement.

"As a leader in women's healthcare, this is an important addition to our existing offerings and allows us to leverage our infrastructure and expertise, including our sales forces' strong clinical reputation and educational capabilities," White added.

Cooper, which focuses on surgical and vision care medical devices, also recently announced two promotions within the company, effective Feb. 1: Dan McBride taking on expanded, company-wide responsibilities as executive vice president, chief operating officer of CooperCompanies; and EVP Jerry Warner becoming president of CooperVision.

Shaq at Medea event

Medea Inc. marked the opening of its new offices on Saint Mary Street in Pleasanton earlier this fall with an event that included an appearance by NBA Hall of Famer Shaquille O'Neal.

The company, founded in 2014 and previously known as a consumer packaged goods and technology provider, shifted its focus last year toward wholesale production and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) during the pandemic.

Of the Medea's transition during

the pandemic, company CEO Brandon Laidlaw said, "We had to innovate and analyze our business from all angles. Other companies were starting to use their distilleries to make hand sanitizer. That wasn't possible for us because our distillery is in the Netherlands. However, our products are created in Asia. Recruiting our manufacturers to pivot from our core business to the production of PPE, was a viable option worth taking."

Topcon growth

Topcon Positioning Group, a product and service firm for the construction, geospatial and agricultural fields, has expanded its company headquarters on National Drive in Livermore with the new John D. Dice Training Center, named for the company's longtime director of professional services.

Dice, who has been with the company since its early years, is known for training, support and educational skills to help improve the company's distributor and customer training programs, according to Topcon President and CEO Ray O'Connor.

O'Connor also announced the company recently bought a nearly 31,000-square-foot building it had previously been leasing in Livermore, as well as purchased 60 acres nearby earmarked for a new, state-of-the-art testing site. That makes nearly 80 acres owned by Topcon in the Tri-Valley at an investment exceeding \$20 million.

"The continued expansion of our Livermore headquarters is in direct response to a global increase in digitalization and technology adoption throughout the construction and agricultural industries," O'Connor said in a statement.

"This investment not only demonstrates our commitment to supporting the ever-growing demand for technology in the geospatial, construction and agricultural industries, it also shows our dedication to our local economy in a time when so many companies are choosing to leave the state of California," he added. ■

Gallery reopens with watercolors

After being closed for the holidays, the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center will reopen Saturday, Jan. 8, with the California Watercolor Association's 52nd National Exhibition featuring works by its 85 premier painters. An opening and awards reception will take place from 1-3 p.m. that day. Shown is last year's Gold Award winner, "Touch of Light Snow" by Dongfeng Li. The exhibit runs through March 12; gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays; 3-5 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; with additional times by appointment only. Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. For information, call (925) 931-4850.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NOISE

Continued from Page 5

with \$300,000 in tax revenue and \$150,000 each to Livermore and Pleasanton school districts.

The number of flights at Livermore Municipal Airport was down in 2020, but jumped up in the first part of 2021, with the six-month tally increasing by 16 percent over 2019 operations. The city of Pleasanton said more flights appear to violate the voluntary guidelines Livermore adopted to restrict night flying and recommended flight paths. The city of Pleasanton has received more than 85 emails and a

petition with more than 6,000 signatures concerning such violations.

Residents increasingly report disturbances from jet traffic, which also accounts for more than 60 percent of complaints received by airport staff. While some may attribute these concerns to more residents working from home during the pandemic, many of the concerns appear to be from flights during nights and weekends.

KaiserAir has committed to adhering to the airport's voluntary night flight restrictions, and it promises to help mitigate noise impacts.

The proposal requires review

by three different Livermore government bodies. The Livermore Airport Commission reviewed the project on Feb. 8, 2021 and voted to recommend approval to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will review the project for compliance with city standards and land use policies. The project must also go to the Livermore City Council for review and consideration of the lease to KaiserAir.

The airport has long been a source of tension between the cities of Pleasanton and Livermore. A report about the issue posted on Pleasanton's website discussed the

noise issues, the expansion and what the city says has been a lack of follow-through when it comes to honoring airport partnership commitments made by both City Councils in 2010.

That report also critiqued the airport's "lack of adherence to voluntary nighttime-noise abatement and flight-path programs adopted with good intent by Livermore, including more robust follow-up with city of Pleasanton residents regarding registered noise complaints."

Because KaiserAir's proposal would provide 162,000 square feet of additional hanger complex space, Pleasanton is concerned more than

three 737s will use the facility, so Pleasanton is asking Livermore to provide an environmental impact analysis of the project and to offer potential mitigations under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Pleasanton also is asking that the two cities resume quarterly meetings of the Livermore / Pleasanton Liaison Committee to improve communications and to promote mutual understanding of airport operations.

The next meeting of the Livermore Airport Commission is scheduled for noon Jan. 10. ■

— Bay City News

Carol LaVerne Price

December 22, 1936 – December 28, 2021

Resident of Pleasanton

Our beloved mom, Carol passed away peacefully Tuesday evening unexpectedly and quickly. While she had been living with several health issues, she loved playing solitaire on her iPad, watching home improvement shows for hours, and visits and phone calls with friends and spending time with her family. Carol had just celebrated her 85th birthday, with so many people showering her with love through cards and phone calls. She was so happy to have spent her favorite holiday, Christmas, surrounded by her family and was looking forward to the new year.



Carol was born and raised in Alameda, CA, graduating from Alameda High School in 1955. She met her husband Stan in Alameda where they married in 1957. Carol and Stan moved their young family of three daughters to Pleasanton in 1968 where Carol was still residing. In the early 70's, Carol answered a call from a friend, providing daycare for her daughter. This eventually turned into a business that spanned years in the 80's and 90's. She made a lasting impression on the children in her care. Her house was always decorated for every holiday big or small and Carol always had matching outfits and accessories. She taught her daycare kids how to deal with challenges and how to celebrate successes and always led with love. She enjoyed staying in touch with many of "her kids" to this day.

Carol was an amazing neighbor, sharing the same court with many of them for over 50 years. She was a friend to all and treated friends like family. There was always a place at the table, a listening ear, and a silly story or antic to lighten any day. She was cherished by so many. We're sure we will never know the extent of how far her impact on others has reached.

Carol is survived by her daughters, Kim Johnson, Theresa Moore (Craig Moore) and Lorinda Price; and grandchildren Zack Johnson, Sierra Moore and Emma Grace Alcantara, Cory Moore (Kristin Moore) and Caley Moore and Great Granddaughters Ava and Kaia Moore. Her kind, fun and giving spirit will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Friends and family are invited to a funeral mass at 10 am on Tuesday, January 11th at St. Augustine's Church (3999 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton). Visitation will be held a half hour before mass at 9:30 at St. Augustine's. Burial to follow at Holy Sepulchre 26320 Mission Blvd. Hayward.

PAID OBITUARY

DISTRICT MAP

Continued from Page 5

When discussing how to identify communities of interest, Vice Mayor Valerie Arkin wondered if elementary school boundaries are "something that has been taken into consideration heavily." Wagaman confirmed that "common assets like schools are absolutely one of the ways to define communities of interest," though he added "that's not a uniform rule because some schools have open enrollment ... but that would be an example of the kind of direction this body could give."

Arkin said, "As it's mentioned

in the presentation about race, it must not be the predominant factor ... it can be a subordinate type of factor. I know this is an odd question but what does that look like? What does it mean if it's a subordinate factor?"

Wagaman explained, "there are lots of ways that race and ethnicity may correspond to other things that we're looking at."

"For example, you may have a portion of the town ... that has different socioeconomic issues," Wagaman said. "And those different socioeconomic issues may be correlated to the fact that that area has heavily large immigrant populations and, therefore, they have different language access issues,

therefore, they have different issues of education, and all those issues are all correlated to issues of race and ethnicity."

Arkin and Councilmember Kathy Narum both brought up the city's Housing Element update that is currently underway and asked whether future population changes and existing elementary school boundaries can be taken into account when drawing the map.

Wagaman said they need to rely on data from the 2020 US Census and existing city boundaries but "could identify areas expected to grow." Any areas potentially annexed in the future would also require an adjustment to the district boundaries.

"If there's an area in the city that you know is going to grow faster, for example, than another part, it is acceptable to say okay we'll leave that district a little smaller, knowing it's going to get bigger over the next 10 years," Wagaman said. "You still have to be within those acceptable deviations but it is something you can look at."

Councilmember Julie Testa noted, "When we break into four districts, we have a smaller portion of the city we're representing but we also have conflicts of interest", as well as questions about whether a council member's home could create a conflict of interest within that smaller district when voting on items like the Housing Element.

"If I have to recuse ... where does that leave my constituents when I, their representative, is now conflicted out?" Testa said.

Tom Willis, another demographer also hired by the city, said the conflict of interest rules don't change, adding "that can be a tough situation, and I don't think there's a particularly good answer for that."

The answer is a district can pretty much be left without a representative," Testa said.

Two more public hearings are scheduled on Jan. 18 and Feb. 3. The council is expected to vote on the final map at their Feb. 24 regular meeting. The transition from at-large to district-based elections will be completed in time for the November general election. ■

Paul William Senden

Feb. 22, 1932 – December 10, 2021

Paul W. Senden, 89, was born on Feb. 22, 1932 in St. Charles, MO, to John & Elvira Senden. He passed away on Friday, Dec. 10, at his home in Pleasanton.

Services are to be held at Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton, CA at 12:00pm on Saturday, January 8. An open viewing will be held from 10:00am-12:00pm before the service.

Paul Senden was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He attended the University of Missouri where he was a tuba player. Paul was a retired US Naval Aviator having flown the Grumman S2F (Stoof) aboard the USS Bennington, Kearsarge, Philippine Sea, Hornet and other US Navy Aircraft carriers. After retirement from the Navy, he went to work for the Burkhardt company, a premium advertising company. After that, he started his own advertising company, the Senden Company.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Billie Jeanine and his brother, John Jr.

He is survived by his wife of 9 years, Edith Linnea, and three sons and their spouses, Steven and Sue of Manteca, Scott and Michelle of Phoenix, and Shawn and Betty of Livermore. He also leaves behind 6 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Paul was heavily involved in the local Pleasanton community, serving as president of the Pleasanton Valley Swim Club, Pleasanton Little League, and the Elks Lodge. He was also an active part of the local Kiwanis.

One of Paul's favorite things to do was hosting backyard family BBQs, where he cooked his famous ribs. He also loved attending Pleasanton's Concerts in Park on warm, summer evenings.

Paul was an avid golfer and enjoyed spending his time in retirement as a golf marshal at Wente Vineyards. He was also a devout Lutheran who attended Trinity Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Oakland Children's Hospital, a charity that was near and dear to his heart.



PAID OBITUARY

POLICE BULLETIN

Livermore police say porch cameras help solve crimes

The Grinch might have had a harder time absconding with all of Whoville's goodies in 2021 thanks to the prevalence of porch video surveillance equipment that local police say helps solve crimes.

Just take a look on any given day at neighborhood social site Nextdoor, where fliers advertising missing cats, dogs and the occasional turtle or chicken are interspersed with chilling video footage of strangers creeping around private properties.

Livermore Police Sgt. Steve Goard said videos posted on Nextdoor and the Ring platform are giving officers a new tool to help make the community safer.

While California doesn't allow law enforcement to use facial recognition software, police say having video showing someone at a crime scene comes in handy later, for example, if the suspect's cell phone data also places them at that location.

"We would love for them to go to court and for us to have videos of them," Goard said.

While residents sometimes feel it's a waste of time or a burden to report suspicious behavior caught on video, Goard said, he stressed that it's useful. He said Livermore detectives are assigned to cross-check video evidence while investigating crimes, and it can help lead to arrests.

Even if a resident chooses not to report a seemingly minor crime, Ring offers a way for detectives to reach out proactively and ask to come take a report, especially if they recognize a pattern of crimes

may be occurring.

He also says platforms such as Nextdoor and Ring flag one's neighbors to pay more attention to what's going on.

As far as the mindset of criminals who seem oblivious to the fact that they may be recorded red-handed, Goard said he can't imagine their motivation but said they don't seem to be intimidated.

"The lights will go on, and the camera goes on, and they continue to go on and burglarize the car," he said.

With holiday gifts just unwrapped, Goard reminds the public that writing down serial numbers of valuable electronics or tools is important and helps investigators track stolen items across state lines.

"(Video services) are absolutely making the community safer," Goard says, adding that even if one house doesn't have a camera, odds are the one next door does.

—*Bay City News*

In other news

- Livermore attorney Steven Ahlers was disbarred this month because he failed to comply with conditions of his probation in two prior disciplinary cases, according to the State Bar of California, which licenses, regulates and disciplines attorneys.

In the two disciplinary cases, Ahlers was suspended for periods of six months and two years.

Ahlers failed to provide satisfactory evidence that he completed State Bar Ethics School and failed to submit quarterly reports in a timely manner to the Office of Probation.

In 2015, Ahlers was found guilty of using a telephone or electronic communication device with the intent to annoy his domestic partner, a misdemeanor. The State Bar Court placed Ahlers on three years of probation and ordered him to complete 104 hours of counseling with a therapist.

Ahlers did not immediately respond by phone or email asking for

comment on the disbarment. A call to his attorney in the 2015 case was not immediately returned.

Ahlers was admitted to the California bar in 2007.

—*Keith Burbank, BCN*

- The California Highway Patrol reported a fatal crash Dec. 31 on northbound Interstate Highway 680 in Sunol in Alameda County.

The crash was first reported at 4:35 a.m. just south of the Andrade Road off-ramp, according to the CHP.

—*Bay City News Service*

- A pedestrian was hit by a vehicle on Hopyard Road near Hansen Drive at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 27.

According to the Pleasanton Police Department, the vehicle was traveling northbound on Hopyard Road when it struck the pedestrian, who was walking eastbound across Hopyard Road, outside of a crosswalk.

The pedestrian was transported to Eden Hospital with critical injuries.

The Pleasanton Police Department Traffic Unit responded to the

scene and are investigating the collision. The driver remained at the scene and is cooperating with the investigation.

"It has not been determined whether alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision," said Traffic Sergeant Steve Ayers. "Due to the ongoing investigation, the identities of the driver and pedestrian are not being released at this time."

This is the fourth incident this year in the area in which a pedestrian was hit by a vehicle. In February a pedestrian was struck and killed on Johnson Drive in Pleasanton. In June, a pedestrian was hit and killed on Dublin Boulevard in Dublin. In late August, a pedestrian walking on I-680 in San Ramon was struck and killed and a pedestrian walking on I-580 in Livermore was struck and killed in September.

Anyone with information related to the collision is encouraged to contact the Pleasanton Police Department Traffic Unit at 931-5100. ■

—*Gina Channell Wilcox*

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available

Jan 1

Domestic battery

- 1:07 a.m. on Springhouse Drive
- 3:36 a.m. on Johnson Drive

Assault/Battery

- 10:14 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Dec. 31

Theft

- 7:33 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting
- 8:59 a.m. on the 800 block of Abbie Street; catalytic converter theft

Assault/Battery

- 12:57 p.m. on the 1300 block of Greenwood Road

Alcohol violation

- 11:19 p.m. on the 2000 block of Santa Rita Road

Dec. 30

Fraud

- 12:04 p.m. on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue

Warrant arrest

- 4:35 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Carmen Garcia

July 16, 1946 – December 16, 2021

Carmen Garcia, of Livermore, CA passed away in the early hours of Thursday, December 16, 2021 at the age of 75. Carmen had a long and full life. She was born in Zacatecas, Mexico and immigrated to the United States in 1962 with her parents and siblings. The family settled in San Francisco and Carmen then attended Samuel Gompers High School.



She met Albert Garcia in 1968 while attending Heald College and they married in 1970. They grew their family in 1972 and 1976 with the birth of their daughters.

Carmen had a long career in banking. She was a loyal employee of Wells Fargo Bank and retired from there after 25 years of service. She then worked at the San Mateo Credit Union for an additional 7 years before retiring to spend time with her grandchildren. She also began volunteering at the American Cancer Society's Discovery Shop in Pleasanton.

She is survived by her husband, Albert; children Mariza (Darren) and Maritez (Willie); her grandchildren Josiah, Jonah, Judah, Johannah, Sean, Seth, Samantha, Jack, & Maddie; and her siblings Ramon, Alfredo, Cecilia, Rodrigo, Martha, Juana and Luis. Preceding her in death are her parents, Cruz and Guadalupe De La Rosa; and her brother, Salomon De La Rosa.

Carmen was a devoted wife, mother and Nana. She enjoyed being with her family. She and Albert loved traveling, attending concerts, and their special Friday night dinners out. She was a regular attendee at her grandchildren's team games and recitals. She hosted her family's large holiday events for decades, and she looked forward to her weekends spent with her sisters and brothers. She leaves behind many other family and friends, and her sweet dog, Daisy.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 11:00 am at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton. Flowers welcome.

PAID OBITUARY

Kevin Eamon Ryan

April 20, 1950 – December 15, 2021

Kevin Ryan took his last flight to heaven Dec. 15 at age 71. He was born in San Mateo, the fourth son of Margaret Schott Ryan and Captain Joseph Ryan. He graduated from St. Gregory's Catholic School, Serra High School, both in San Mateo, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo in 1974.



Kevin worked as a manufacturing engineer for 45 years at several companies, including Lam Research in Livermore. The thrill of his life was manufacturing sail cloth for the 1992 America's Cup.

Kevin married Sandra Sanfilippo, also from San Mateo in 1980, and they moved to Pleasanton with their daughter, Andrea "Dre", one year later, where they lived for 40 years. He was a great adventurer. A private pilot, he flew his airplane to exciting locations. He volunteered for 30 years for the Collings Foundation that brought their World War II airplanes to Livermore Airport and cities throughout the country. Kevin was an award-winning runner, a backpacker and hiker. He was a proud member of the Knight of Columbus at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton.

Survivors include: his wife Sandra Ryan; daughter Dre Ryan, son-in-law Seth John, granddaughters Cecilia and Celeste John, all from Los Angeles; brothers Terry (Dinah) from Vallejo, Dennis (the late Virginia) from San Carlos, and Brendan from Brussels; six nephews and one niece.

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Augustine's Catholic Church, located at 3999 Bernal Ave. (at East Angela St.) on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 10 a.m., followed by internment at St. Augustine's Catholic Cemetery on 5750 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. The funeral will be live-streamed on You Tube and Face Book at the Catholics Community of Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Kevin's name to the Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, or the Yosemite Conservancy.

PAID OBITUARY

Artist blends history and activism in paintings

Carolyn Lord's watercolors feature landmarks of the past and present

BY CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore artist Carolyn Lord draws inspiration from local architecture and vernacular landscape to bring to life her watercolor works, which often feature city landmarks of the past and present.

Originally from Southern California, Lord moved to Livermore in the fall of 1980 with her husband. While she said it took some time for her to adjust to her new surroundings, her artistry helped her immerse herself into the community.

"For me, moving to Livermore felt like I was in the Midwest — because I had spent four years in Southern Illinois for college — and Elko, Nevada, where my father and his wife lived," Lord said, noting how remote Livermore was at the time compared to larger Bay Area cities.

She said that early on she spent a lot of time traveling into San Francisco to purchase materials for her artwork and got involved in the arts community there.

When her son was born, she said she fell in love with the entire Bay Area through being a mother as she'd joined the Livermore Moms Club and learned about different places and adventures throughout the region to take her son, like

Children's Fairyland in Oakland and Happy Hollow Park & Zoo in San Jose.

"I wanted to be able to say, 'yeah, I really raised my son and got involved' and that was part of what made me feel more comfortable to get involved," Lord said.

While her son is now grown, Lord still remains involved in community issues. She said that most recently, she has been attending and giving input at Livermore Cultural Arts Council meetings for the redevelopment of the city's cultural arts vision plan.

She said that in Livermore, she's found that the visual and fine arts scene is not as strong as the music and performing arts, which is part of the reason she's engaging in the process to redevelop the cultural arts plan. Lord said she wants to see more effort and support put behind the visual and fine arts. For example, she said that Livermore lacks an adequate gallery space.

"I'll have people ask me why I don't show in the lobby at the Bankhead — I don't exhibit art on brick walls with sloped floors," Lord said with a laugh. "The point is, I know the space was not designed to

exhibit art," she added, noting that there are other spaces in the San Joaquin Valley that are better suited for showing art, such as the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts in Tracy and the Carnegie Arts Center in Turlock.

She also said that another reason she thinks the visual and fine arts are not as robust as the music and performing arts in Livermore is because of the different experiences they offer.

"The theater and music tends to be a group event," she said. "You audition, you rehearse together, everybody's excited and it's sort of like being on a team, whereas the visual and fine artists -- like what I do -- we do all the work by ourselves and all we do is show up for the show and it's just not as exciting," she added.

Lord — who, in addition to art, is also passionate about climate action — incorporates her community engagement into her work. She paints where she lives, including her own garden with persimmon and lemon trees, among other plants and flowers.

Beyond her front yard, many of her paintings depict downtown



Livermore artist Carolyn Lord's art has been exhibited at museums throughout the Bay Area, including the de Young Museum of Art in Santa Clara, the de Young Museum in San Francisco, Elliott Fouts History Museum of Los Angeles County, among many others.

Livermore architecture like the garage bays at what was formerly the site of Groth Brothers Chevrolet dealership at the corner of First and L streets. The site is currently being developed into a mixed-use housing and retail development.

"So, here we have Livermore — with its historic downtown — and what did they tear down? The first fireproof auto shop in the state of California," Lord said of the former Groth Brothers location.

She said that her paintings not only pay homage to the city's rich history but they also reflect her views on sustainability and her belief that many of the older Livermore buildings could have been saved and repurposed into community spaces such as a science museum or centers for the youth or galleries for art.

"I know in the green economy, with an already built building you're further ahead than demolishing and building something new," Lord said.

Some of Lord's works also depict the former Valley Pool Center on Railroad Avenue as well as a strip of buildings on North Livermore Avenue, which have housed different businesses over the years but are currently occupied by a martial arts studio, The Good Time Tavern and the city's Housing Services Center.

Lord's painting of the strip is titled "Livermore Tattoo," in reference to a tattoo shop that once existed in that

location but moved in 2008 after the owner said he was advised by the city that a tattoo parlor did not fit the vision for the downtown redevelopment plan, according to an East Bay Times report on the issue.

While Lord's paintings of the various buildings do not include



CIERRA BAILEY

Lord's painting titled "Chutes and Ladders," featuring the old Valley Pool Center slide, represents the water cycle and the need for rain in the winter to supply water for the summer.



Lord draws inspiration from local architecture and landmarks of the past and present.



CIERRA BAILEY

Bay Area and beyond, including the Triton Art Gallery in Sacramento and the Natural

Livermore that highlight an older style of architecture, including the many duet-style homes and duplexes throughout the city's neighborhoods.

"When people say, 'We don't want change, we only want single-family homes in Livermore,' it's like, no, if you go into the older neighborhoods, it's all right here," Lord said. "This is a part of our tradition, to have duplexes and multi-family houses. It's been around us the whole time," she added.

Lord incorporates environmental concepts into her work as well. In one of her paintings depicting the slide that sat on the roof of Valley Pool Center, she said that she chose to paint it in the winter time with clouds above it to indicate that, "we need our clouds to rain to put snow on the Sierras, so we can have swimming pool water," she said, adding that she titled it "Chutes and Ladders" like the board game to represent the ups and downs of the water cycle.

While Lord said that she would have preferred that the city preserve and repurpose more of its historical buildings, she does support the development of affordable housing downtown. "My feeling is, bring it on in because the ship's already sailed, the train's already out of the station," Lord said.

Lord's art has been exhibited at museums throughout the Bay Area and beyond, including the Triton Museum of Art in Santa Clara, the de Young Museum in San Francisco, Elliott Fouts Gallery in Sacramento and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, among many others.

More information about Lord and her work is available at www.CarolynLord.com. ■

signage that says what they are or what they were, the buildings are recognizable as visual downtown staples, particularly for longtime Livermore residents who lived in town when many of these former businesses were still operating.

Lord also paints homes in



CIERRA BAILEY

architecture to bring to life her watercolor works, which often feature city landmarks of the



CIERRA BAILEY

In addition to architecture, Lord paints seascapes, landscapes, gardens and many other works.

GUEST OPINION

By DAN WALTERS

California redistricting won't change Democrats' control

Superficially, California's politics seem poised for a big upheaval in this election year, but appearances can be deceiving.

The illusion of major change comes from the redrawing of 172 congressional and legislative districts by the state's independent redistricting commission to reflect

population shifts revealed by the 2020 census.

The boundary changes, driven by the 14-member commission's obsession with "communities of interest" that it defined in purely subjective, ever-shifting terms, will generate a substantial turnover in the 52-member congressional

delegation, the 40-member state Senate and the 80-seat state Assembly.

Much of it will be a game of musical chairs as politicians shift from one venue to another. Several senior members of the congressional delegation are calling it quits, opening up opportunities for state legislators to advance their careers. The redistricting plans also throw a few incumbents into the same districts, forcing them to alter career plans.

The 2011 California redistricting and the 2012 elections brought a bumper crop of new legislators into the Capitol who will face automatic retirement in 2024 due to the 12-year limit on legislative service, so several of them are planning bids for Congress or statewide office this year.

The commission was attempting to comply with a set of conflicting mandates, not only to equalize the populations of legislative and congressional districts, but to meet the demands of ethnic and cultural "communities of interest" for dedicated legislative seats and to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act.

The Voting Rights Act indirectly mandates creating more districts likely to elect non-white members, thus increasing the likelihood that more of those winning legislative seats in this year's elections will be Latino, Asian or Black.

The communities whose

demands were met are overwhelmingly Democratic and even if the commission had ignored the Voting Rights Act and the "communities of interest" credo, its maps would favor Democrats because fewer than 25% of registered voters are Republicans and Democrats outnumber them almost 2-to-1.

If one defines "gerrymandering" as pre-ordaining who wins a legislative or congressional seat by drawing district lines, this was gerrymandering, albeit not for overtly partisan purposes. That said, the partisan effect will be to cement the Democratic Party's overwhelming control of the Legislature and the congressional delegation.

The current Legislature is roughly 75% Democratic and there's little doubt that the one elected in November will be equally lopsided in partisan makeup. The faces may change but not the Legislature's left-of-center tilt.

The only real mystery emanating from the new maps is whether Democrats will increase their hold on the congressional delegation. In 2018, the state's disdain for Donald Trump manifested itself in a debacle for Republican members of Congress, cutting their ranks from a paltry 14 seats to just seven.

The GOP rebounded a bit in 2020 and now holds 11 seats.

The state is losing a congressional seat due to slow population growth in the last decade, thus requiring an adjustment that wound up costing Los Angeles County one of its seats.



Nevertheless, the overall thrust of the new congressional map favors Democrats and whether the party makes gains in California could play a role in which party controls the House.

Republicans need to gain just five seats to regain control and the increase in seats in fast-growing pro-GOP states such as Texas, plus Republican-friendly gerrymanders in those states and the nation's overall political sentiment favor a shift of power.

However, if it's closer than expected, Democratic gains in California could make the difference and a handful of toss-up contests in the state's newly reconfigured districts will draw heavy attention. ■

—Editor's note: Dan Walters has been a journalist for nearly 60 years, spending all but a few of those years working for California newspapers. He has written thousands of columns about California and its politics, authored books and has been a frequent guest on national television news shows, commenting on California politics. CalMatters is a nonpartisan, nonprofit journalism venture committed to explaining how California's state Capitol works and why it matters. Learn more at www.calmatters.org.



HIGHLIGHTS

Planning Commission

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available after January 5, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp

- P21-0144, Mark Landolf, 3747 Trenery Drive
Application for Planned Unit Development (PUD) development plan approval to establish developments standards for the construction of an approximately: 1) 5,067 sq. ft., single-story home with two garages totaling approximately 1,967 sq. ft. in area; and 2) 1,199 sq. ft., detached accessory dwelling unit with an approximately 457 sq. ft. garage and related improvements on a 1-acre vacant parcel. Zoning is PUD-LDR (Planned Unit Development – Low Density Residential) District
- P21-0132, P21-0133, PUD-142, Ramprasad Srirama, 3707 Trenery Drive
Applications for: 1) Minor Subdivision approval to subdivide an approximately 1.3-acre "L" shaped vacant parcel on the southside of Trenery Drive and westside of Martin Avenue into two parcels measuring approximately 21,886 sq. ft. (Parcel 1/A) and approximately 34,840 sq. ft. (Parcel 2/B) in area; and 2) Planned Unit Development rezoning and development plan approval to construct an approximately: a) 4,837 sq. ft., two-story home with a 900 sq. ft. garage and related improvements on Parcel 1/A; and b) 4,776 sq. ft., single-story home with an 853 sq. ft. garage and related improvements on Parcel 2/B
- P20-1053, Hanna Naguib LLC, 218 Ray Street
Application for Design Review to construct a new 1,069 sq. ft. two-story residential unit behind an existing commercial building located at 218 Ray Street. Zoning is C-C (Central-Commercial) District

Youth Commission

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

- Consider and Review Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Community Grant Midterm Reports
- Consider and Review Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Community Grant Midterm Reports
- Discuss Library and Recreation Department Summer Part-Time Staff Recruitment

Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

- Review and Recommend Approval of the Draft Ken Mercer Skate Park Final Conceptual Design
- Review and Recommend Approval of the Draft All-Abilities Playground Master Plan at Ken Mercer Skatepark
- Review and Approve Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule for 2022
- Select Commission Chair and Vice Chair for 2022

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

LETTERS

Our republic is threatened

"A republic, if you can keep it," Benjamin Franklin said after helping draft the US Constitution. Someone had asked him what form of government they had created.

We may like to think of our democracy as inviolable, but Benjamin Franklin knew better. The truth is our representative republic is threatened from multiple directions: money in politics, gerrymandering, voter suppression, foreign manipulation, Trump's Big Lie, and last year's January 6th Insurrection.

Watchdog groups such as Freedom House downgraded our democracy scores last year, placing us closer to Panama than, say, the UK. This is embarrassing, and it's tempting to "move on" rather than confronting the January 6th Insurrection.

History warns us against this course. After a 1923 failed coup attempt by Hitler, he was allowed back into politics and ten years later, cemented his power with a successful takeover with the

Reichstag fire. Germany lost its democracy to a dictator.

— Alan Marling

Kudos to Jeremy Walsh

I kept Jeremy Walsh's 12/17 "What A Week" after being overwhelmed with his feelings discussed throughout the article. I reread it two or three times before I decided to write this letter. Jeremy is a person willing to admit to the public that he will be focusing "on new priority duties — fatherly ones! It's a thrilling time for sure!"

Yet a reason for not openly sharing information about his joy and elation revolved around "not wanting to deal with some of the public reaction." There have always been individuals and groups who are displeased and even angry with others happiness and comment with "personal swipes." It is truly concerning that this negativity is becoming more the acceptable norm for humanity throughout the world.

Bravo Jeremy and many congratulations to you and your wife.

— Bruce M. Gach, M.D. Pediatrician

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Artistic director seeks to capture O'Neill's experimental phase in

'Welded'

Third-ever production of
lesser-known O'Neill play set
for next week

By JEANITA LYMAN

Eugene O'Neill's 1924 play "Welded" was not one of his biggest hits during his time, or following his death. The upcoming production marks just the third time it's been brought to the stage, with the past two attempts at bringing it to life last century failing to hit the mark.

However, Eric Hayes, artistic director for the Eugene O'Neill Foundation is seeking to change that in the first production of the play on the West Coast — and in the 21st century.

"Both were considered not successful and neither of them followed that stage direction about the light," said Eric Hayes, of the past two efforts to bring "Welded" to the stage.

O'Neill's original stage directions in the play consist of the use of individual spotlights on each actor, meant to function as "auras of egoism" and symbols of the characters' sense of isolation and alienation that the play intends to capture. The unconventional use of lighting marks the play as a product of O'Neill's earlier experimental phase, often contrasted

with the later work that would cause him to be known for his emphasis on realism.

According to Hayes, however, O'Neill's experimental phase also reveals a playwright who was interested in showcasing the way the world really is, albeit through more unfamiliar theatrical means.

In addition to incorporating O'Neill's "auras of egoism" via the use of spotlights, Hayes is seeking to explore the use of light and interaction in the hopes of engaging the audience as active participants in the performance, and as a way for the actors to interact with each other.

"I want to see if I can find a way to pull the audience into that so they just don't feel passive," Hayes added. "Hopefully if I succeed, I will find a way to bring it full circle and have the audience feel they're part of the play also."

In keeping with his interpretation of O'Neill's experimental work as "based on the world" equally if not more so than his later work in the realist tradition, Hayes said he hoped for this use of lighting to reveal deep truths about the world in the way he understands O'Neill



ERIC FRAISHER HAYES

From left to right: Craig Eychner, Terrance Smith, Adrian Deane and Bonnie DeChant during a rehearsal for the upcoming production of "Welded," set for Jan. 14 through 16.

as having intended to throughout his "experimental" phase.

"I think there's some message in this to be said about the way we behave when we're in the light versus the way we behave when we're outside of the light," Hayes said. "It's really easy to criticize somebody when they're in the light and you're not. I think all of us can point to somebody else and say 'wow we wouldn't do that', but if the light's on you, maybe you would."

The plot of "Welded" seeks to shed light on egoism by centering on a newlywed couple who come to consider and reflect on the roles that the marriage assigns to them by default, and their own expectations for the future of their relationship. It's widely thought to be inspired by O'Neill's second marriage to the British-born writer Agnes Boulton, who he had two children with prior to ending the marriage to be with his third wife, Carlotta Monterey.

"Basically, at the start of the play you have this couple who have this sort of idealized vision of what marriage is, and one of them starts to have questions, starts to doubt, and starts to break away," Hayes said. "It's kind of a meditation on roles we play with each other."

In addition to reflecting on the

roles people play within relationships, particularly those rooted in longstanding institutions and traditions such as marriage, Hayes said the production would seek to emphasize the expectations that come from those roles, and the psychological impact of having one's expectations thwarted.

"I'm playing with the idea that characters come into a scene thinking they have control of the scene, and as they find out the person is more complex than they realized, the idea of what role you are in, a scene breaks down a bit," Hayes said.

Hayes added that one area where these points become clear in the plot of "Welded" is through the wife, Eleanor's, exploration of what her role is meant to be as a married woman in the early 20th century.

"What is a good wife? Really, like what is that? It seems to tap into notions of unflinching service and trustworthiness and maybe subjugating your own desires and doing all those things to make your man successful," Hayes said.

On the second night of its three-night run, Beth Wynstra, the production's dramaturg, is set to more deeply explore this theme in particular in a free talk on marriage and O'Neill's work ahead of the

Saturday night show.

"She's particularly tuned into ideas of marriage back in the 1920s," Hayes said. "Her specialty in this case is to kind of show how America saw itself and thought about itself in its plays."

Although the production, and Wynstra's talk, are influenced by the time O'Neill was living and writing in, nearly 100 years ago in the case of "Welded," Hayes said that these themes are just as relevant to today's audiences.

"I am fascinated with the notion that people go into every situation with a lot of assumptions," Hayes said. "Especially these days, we have a lot more information. We have all kinds of ideas and I think we don't really understand each other, and we always prove more complex than people go into a situation thinking of us. It's like we're meeting people as if they're the tips of icebergs now and we don't really know what the heck else is going on."

Hayes' production of "Welded" is set to run from Jan. 14 through 16 at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, with shows at 7 p.m. each night. Wynstra's talk on marriage and O'Neill is set for 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.eugeneoneill.org. ■



ERIC FRAISHER HAYES

Bonnie DeChant and Craig Eychner have the important job of shining the individual spotlight on the actors. The spotlight is meant to function as "auras of egoism" and symbols of the characters' sense of isolation and alienation.

Encore Players to present 'Jake's Women'

Troupe returning indoors at Bothwell with Neil Simon play

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Encore Players will be indoors for the first time in two years with a performance of Neil Simon's "Jake's Women," from Jan. 14-16 at the Bothwell Arts Center.

The story takes place in Jake's Soho apartment and in his mind as he struggles with situations both comic and poignant as he works to accept the past and live in the present. "Jake's Women" played on Broadway and was made into a film, both starring Alan Alda.

Livermore resident Bob Cowgill, who plays Jake, has been working on learning more than 600 lines, speaking to real and imagined women, as well as directly to the audience. He never leaves the stage.

"This is the most challenging role in my career. It's also one of the most fun roles," Cowgill said. "I feel like Jake and I are the same, as I have conversations in my head all the time."

The seven women are played by Lesleyann Coker as Jake's current wife, Maggie; Lea Blevins as

his deceased wife, Julie; Martie Muldoon as Jake's sister, Karen; Marsha Howard as his therapist, Edith; Alexa Hart and Melissa McCloud as Molly, his daughter at different ages; and Meredith Sarboraria as Jake's girlfriend, Sheila.

Donna Blevins, in her directorial debut with Encore Players, has held rehearsals in her backyard and living room in Livermore, in meeting rooms and on Zoom, believing that theater will find a way, even in these times.

Blevins' favorite line of Jake's is: "The thing about going crazy is that it makes you incredibly smart, in a stupid sort of way."

Shows are 7:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Jan. 14-15; and 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 16, at Bothwell Arts Center East End, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Tickets are \$20; visit LivermoreArts.org or call 373-6800.

Proof of vaccination will be required at the door, as well as masking. Seating will allow for the audience to space out. The cast and crew are fully vaccinated, and actors will be unmasked



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The cast of "Jake's Women," starring Bob Cowgill as Jake, does its first reading in the backyard of director Donna Blevins.

only when on stage.

Encore Players has kept active during the pandemic with

open mic events on Zoom, online library programs, a live radio performance on Zoom, and a recent outdoor performance of "The Dining Room." To learn more, visit encoreplayers.net. ■

Writers club hosting workshops

Five topics address issues about writing

The Tri-Valley Branch of the California Writers Club (CWC) is presenting a "Workshop a la Carte" at 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 15, at Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton.

Those in attendance can choose three of the five discussion groups, each led by experienced

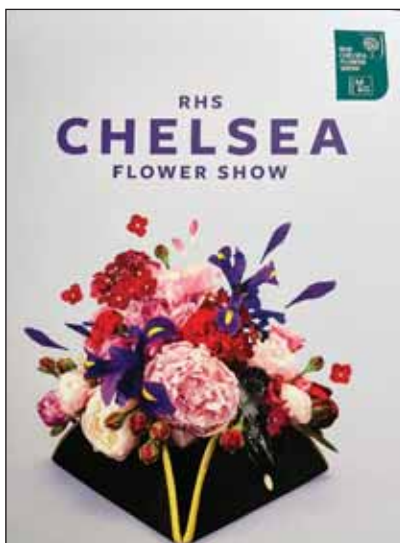
and published authors of Tri-Valley Writers. Topics include the following:

- What to ask when hiring an editor
- Research resources and when enough is enough
- Story arc: building a strong foundation
- ABC's of self-publishing

• Using the five senses for impact

Fees are \$14 for CWC members; \$18, non-members; \$6, student members (14-22); \$10, student non-members. Reserve a spot and pay online at www.trivalleywriters.org by Jan. 12. No walk-ins are allowed. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lydia Roberts will speak on "The RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2021" on Jan. 13 for the Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club.

Garden club featuring royal gardens

Speaker attended famous Chelsea Flower Show

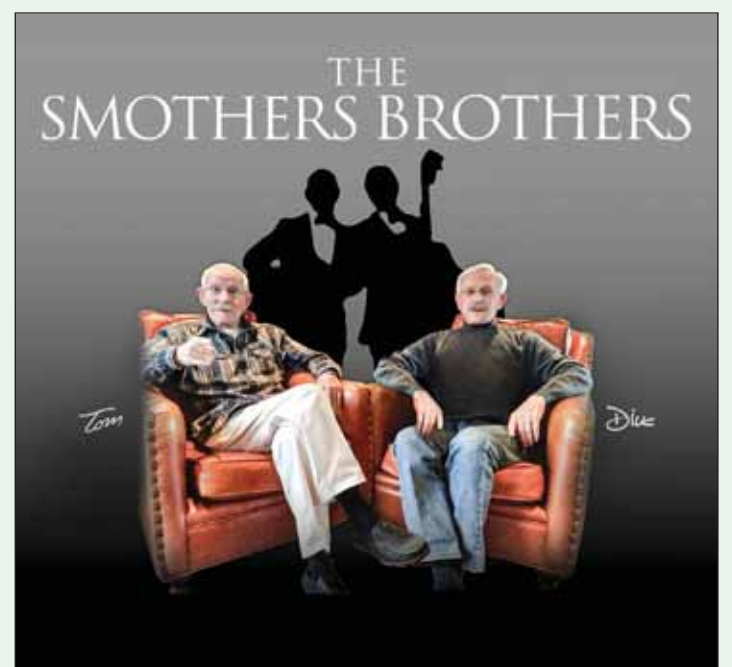
By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club members and guests will learn about some famous English flower shows and gardens at their Jan. 13 meeting on Zoom. Guest speaker will be member Lydia Roberts talking about "The RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2021."

Roberts visited friends and family in England in September and learned that, due to the pandemic, the Chelsea Flower Show had been delayed from May until then so she was able to attend.

The show featured a seasonal palette of plants, and key themes were sustainability, climate change and pollinators. Roberts will share her photos from the show as well as from two other Royal Horticultural Gardens in England and the Eden Project in Cornwall.

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club meets at 7 p.m., with the speaker at 7:30 p.m., the second Thursday of the month from September to June, currently online. Guests wishing to participate may contact club president Jeri Stark at jstarkhome@comcast.net. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Smothers Brothers, Al Franken shows on hold

It doesn't matter whom mom liked best — both Smothers Brothers, out of an abundance of caution, are postponing their appearance at the Bankhead Theater, which was scheduled for Jan. 14 and quickly sold out. Organizers are hoping to resume their tour in the spring.

Comedian Al Franken also has postponed his tour dates including two shows scheduled for tomorrow, Jan. 8, at the Bankhead. Franken's career has proven him an accomplished author, actor, comedian, politician and media personality.

The Smothers Brothers started performing their comedy/music show while at San Jose State College and by 1967 their comedy hour was No. 1 at CBS. They performed on the road for decades and retired in 2010 but their recent induction into the National Comedy Center led them to create an evening in concert with musical comedy, classic video and Q&A, which they are bringing to the Bankhead.

Ticket holders for the Smothers Brothers and for Al Franken will be contacted as soon as dates are determined for their rescheduled performances. For information about ticket availability for the new shows, visit www.LivermoreArts.org.



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

In his hometown of Pleasanton, he was just 'John'

It's been over a week now since we lost one of the great icons of Pleasanton when John Madden passed away at 85.

There were a lot of cool things about having John as a Pleasanton resident and a fixture around the town.

But the coolest was, if you were a Pleasanton resident, you knew John. It was obvious on social media last week after John passed as people were sharing memories and, in some cases, photos of John when they ran into him somewhere around town.

Here he was, larger than life and easily recognizable wherever he went. But, in Pleasanton, he was just "John."

You can talk about his coaching career, his broadcasting, the video games, or the countless commercials, but to me his greatest legacy was that he was just one of us around town.

It was because of that he could go around Pleasanton without being hassled or bothered.

Plain respect from the people of Pleasanton.

It was a trait the entire Madden family carried. Whenever my wife and I would run into his wife Virginia in a store or restaurant, she went out of her way to say hi and ask how we were doing.

His boys, Mike and Joe, were down to earth as well. For years Mike coached the Foothill freshman football team and did a wonderful job.

It wasn't about wins and losses as much as it was about getting the kids comfortable with playing high school football. The success rate was measured by the number of kids that stayed in the program as they moved through school.

I had three of my boys play for Mike and all three of them loved every moment.

A side highlight to Mike coaching is that John would come to the games. At first, he would sit in the

stands, but if the weather got bad or as the years would go on, he started sitting in the press box.

Being the announcer, along side Randy Isaacs running the clock, let us be privy to some amazing conversation. Isaacs is a long-time close friend of the Madden family, and I can remember the two of us just sitting there and listening to John break down a freshman football game, much the same way he did NFL games on Sunday.

My wife and I had breakfast at Vic's last week, a regular stop for us on weekends, as well as one of the places John would stop by regularly.

There was a little memorial set up on his regular table and we were seated at the table next to it.

It was fascinating and heart warming to see the reverence as people paid tribute to the life of John. Some took pictures, others just stopped and paid their respects.

I sat there looking at the table and, while sad, it also put a smile on my face as I thought back to all the times I had a chance to talk with John.

My most memorable was a front page story I did for the old Tri-Valley Herald. It was a story on John, Mike, and Joe. I was afforded time with each of them, as well as Virginia, in their offices in Pleasanton.

It was an incredible time — something I will never forget. I remember when the story ran, the paper framed a print of the story and presented it to the family.

They were genuinely touched, and I remember them telling me it was one of their favorite stories ever written about the family. Whether it was or not didn't matter — they made me feel it was and that's all that counts.

That's who John was and will always be remembered as.

Rest in peace, John, and thank you for always being you. You made all of us in Pleasanton happy to know you.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons took their first two games in the Dougherty Valley tournament to advance to the finals before falling to the host team.

In the opener, Tyler Cheng pumped in 28 points in leading Amador to a 57-49 win over Antioch. Foster Keast had 13 points, with Bryce Osaki and Colton Cash scoring eight points each.

The semifinals saw the Dons score a 47-42 win over Queen Creek from Arizona.

Cash had 22 points to lead Amador and the Dons finished the game with nine, 3-point field goals.

In the finals the Dons ran into the buzzsaw that is Dougherty Valley, falling behind 18-4 at the end of the first quarter and ultimately losing 51-31.



DENNIS MILLER

NFL and broadcasting legend John Madden was a regular at Vic's All-Star Kitchen on Main Street in Pleasanton. In his honor, Vic's staff set up a memorial set on his regular table.

Cash had 11 points and Keast six for the Dons.

Amador girls' basketball

The Lady Dons won the Turquoise Division of the West Coast Jamboree Basketball Tournament on December 30 by beating Half Moon Bay High 51-38.

Junior guard Gianna Ghio was named MVP, senior wing Ally Chang and senior guard Arissa Leomiti were named to the all-tournament team. ■

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.

Grab a front row seat to local high school sports

TRI-VALLEY PREPS PLAYBOOK



The Playbook gives you an in-depth look at what's going on in prep sports.

Every Tuesday, veteran sports writer Dennis Miller emails you exclusive insights into:

- Season and game previews that tell you what to look for and what's at stake
- Profiles of interesting coaches and athletes
- Post-game analysis
- Entertaining features
- Local sports trends

SCAN AND SIGN UP FOR TRI-VALLEY PLAYBOOK



Sign up now at pleasantonweekly.com/express/sports/

Pleasanton Weekly.com

LET'S DISCUSS:

Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com

Theater

ENCORE PLAYERS Encore Players presents Neil Simon's "Jake's Women" at the Bothwell Arts Center. Tickets \$20. Jan 14-16. Visit livermorearts.org. 2466 8th St, Livermore.

Music

THE "EARLY" ELVIS TRIBUTE SHOW Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center kicks off a new year with the return of Jim Anderson & The Rebels and their homage to Elvis Presley. 2 p.m., Jan. 9. Visit firehousearts.org/events.

JOAN OSBORNE & THE WEEPIES The Bankhead Theater presents Joan Osborne, known for her gritty, blues-based rock sound. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 20. Tickets \$20-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org.

MIDNIGHT FLYER: A TRIBUTE TO THE EAGLES Considered one of the premier Eagles tribute acts, audiences and critics alike love the Midnight Flyer band's energy and spot-on recreation of The Eagles' music. Firehouse Arts Center, 8 p.m., Jan. 22. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE PHANTOM'S JEREMY STOLLE With his unparalleled voice and extensive musicianship, Stolle brings together a team of musical artists to deliver a unique look at favorite musicals. Bankhead Theater, tickets \$20-\$68. 8 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit livermorearts.org.

Museums & Exhibits

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., Thursday through Sundays, now until Jan. 16. 2400 First St.

WATERCOLOR NATIONAL EXHIBIT The Harrington Art Gallery in Pleasanton is displaying the California Watercolor Association's 52nd National Exhibition featuring works by its 85 premier painters. The exhibit runs through March 12. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave.

Outdoor Recreation

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE 2022 Be one of the first in 2022 to plunge down the slide into the ice-cold catch pool and then enjoy a cup of hot cocoa. Participants are required to wear proper swimming attire and be at least 48" inches to participate. 10 a.m., Jan. 8. Visit larpd.org

RANGER-LED PROGRAM ON SNAKES Learn how to tell venomous ones from the non-venomous and what to do if you encounter one. RSVP at 925-960-2400. 2 p.m., Jan. 9. Sycamore Grove Park, 5035 Arroyo Rd., Livermore.

Fundraisers

PLEASANTON LIONS CLUB CRAB & GO FUNDRAISER The Pleasanton Lions Club Crab & Go Fundraiser is Feb 6. Tickets: \$130 dinner for two includes 3lbs of cracked & cleaned crab, pasta, salad, cookies and a bottle of Wente Cabernet Sauvignon. Pick up meal between 3-6 p.m. at 2118 Rheem Dr. Visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. 2118 Rheem Drive, 2118 Rheem Drive, Pleasanton. PleasantonLionsClub.org/crabfeed

Talks

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY At the next Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society Zoom meeting, Lisa Gorrell, a Certified Genealogist, will focus on research bringing better results by using research plans. 7-8:30 p.m., Jan. 10. There is no charge and visitors are welcome. Visit l-ags.org.

HOPE HOSPICE WEBINAR Making Decisions About Caregiving is the next Webinar through Hope Hospice. The webinar covers information about assessing needs, working together with family and exploring various care settings. 10-11:30 a.m., Jan. 13. Visit hopehospice.com.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS HOSTS WORKSHOP Tri-Valley Writers presents "Workshop A La Carte" where attendees will choose from five discussions, each led by experienced and published authors. 2 p.m., Jan. 15. RSVP by Jan. 12. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

Students

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.

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.

PET OF THE WEEK



TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE

Corrine

Corrine is an adorable 5-year-old friendly and sweet Rat Terrier mix. She loves snuggles and affection and entertains her foster family with her playful antics. She does well with other small dogs and prefers a home without cats. Spayed, current on vaccines and microchipped. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue or visit tvar.org.

Seniors

ESTATE PLANNING Estate Planning with Shirley White at the Pleasanton Senior Center. The free service includes advice on trusts, wills, power of attorney and health care directives. Call 925-931-5367. Jan. 13.

PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER ORIENTATION If new to Pleasanton discover all of the programs, classes and services available during this one hour orientation. Take a tour of the building and nearby areas of Centennial Park. RSVP to 925-931-5365. 10:30-11:30 a.m., Jan. 13. 5353 Sunol Blvd.

TUESDAY TALKS WITH FRIENDS: FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAYS MONTHLY Join for twice-monthly Zoom chats on the first and third Tuesdays at 11 a.m. with the Pleasanton Senior Center. The topic on Jan. 18 is "All Things Foodie". For more details and to sign up to receive the Zoom link, call 925-931-5365.

TECH TUTORING AT THE SENIOR CENTER One-on-one tutoring sessions

are available at the Pleasanton Senior Center for assistance with a PC laptop, tablet or smart phone. Bring your device to the appointment. Wednesdays, 9 a.m. & 10 a.m., \$2.50R/\$3 NR. Call 925-931-5365.

MEALS ON WHEELS Meals on Wheels provides home delivered meals to seniors (60+). For more information call 925-931-5385.

Support

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.

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

Government

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. Meetings of the Board will be virtual via Zoom until further notice. The next meeting is 6 p.m., Jan. 13. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Jan. 10. For more information visit cityoflivermore.net.

Employment

Manager, Cloud Infrastructure Engineering

Manager, Cloud Infrastructure Engineering, Workday, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Manage ongoing programs delivering next generation architecture running in public cloud. To apply, please mail resume to ATTN: Jessica Thurston, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Please refer to Job # 20637.972.

Manager, Software Development Engineering

Manager, Software Development Engineering, Workday, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Oversee Workday's platform engineering team to deploy OpenStack infrastructure. 10% travel required domestically and internationally. To apply, please mail resume to ATTN: Jessica Thurston, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Please refer to Job # 20637.983.

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

Public Notices

997 All Other Legals

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), 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), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (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. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 24, 31, 2021, January 7, 14, 2022)

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HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Oct. 11-15 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin and Nov. 29-Dec. 3 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 340 East Angela Street** S. Stroot to L. & H. Kalnicky for \$1,286,000
- 3443 Ashton Court** Cohn Trust to L. & R. Bhargava for \$3,050,000
- 6386 Beech Court** K. & S. Ricker to S. & B. Vijayakumar for \$1,725,000
- 4321 Bevilacqua Court** Skeith Living Trust to S. & N. Thakkar for \$1,500,000
- 6463 Calle Esperanza** Molitor Family Trust to W. & Y. Zheng for \$2,275,000
- 4379 Campinia Place** P. Chi to D. & V. Moza for \$2,968,000
- 3285 Curtis Circle** D. Morais to S. & A. Paithankar for \$1,780,000
- 530 Dolores Place** Thorng Family Trust to M. & D. Dambra for \$2,370,000
- 4868 Dolores Drive** May Family Trust to B. & I. Awasthi for \$2,250,000
- 1916 Fiorio Circle** Elder Trust to S. & J. Huang for \$1,250,000
- 3684 Kirkcaldy Court** Jeung Trust to Y. & Y. Chou for \$1,000,000
- 4378 Krause Street** Danko Family Trust to P. Nataraj for \$1,365,000
- 3888 Muirwood Drive** Bauer Trust to P. & S. Chu for \$1,300,000
- 4293 Muirwood Drive** C. & G. Milligan to V. & P. Ramalingam for \$1,275,000
- 1916 Palmer Drive** Mcaninch Living Trust to Gupta Trust for \$2,235,000
- 6540 Paseo Santa Cruz** T. & J. Clyma to M. & S. Chee for \$1,700,000

- 4020 Payne Road** M. & J. Skoczylas to N. & P. Thakur for \$1,400,000
- 1012 Rhine Way** S. & J. Chase to N. & F. Holger for \$2,350,000
- 1751 Spumante Place** Hoffman Trust to Y. & Z. Zhou for \$3,719,000
- 1840 Tanglewood Way** Holleman Trust to Jain Living Trust for \$1,850,000
- 1901 Via Di Salerno** T. Samuel to J. & L. Dhillon for \$3,855,000

Livermore

- 2878 4th Street #1403** I. Karlin to S. Dunbar for \$710,000
- 6350 Altamar Circle** K. & R. Mahler to S. & T. Chung for \$1,100,000
- 2364 Avon Place** H. & D. Nelson to C. Martin for \$1,620,000
- 761 Barleta Lane** Higgins Trust to Z. & D. Parikh for \$1,926,000
- 2474 Broadmoor Street** B. Cox to K. Derr for \$952,000
- 1146 Brookdale Lane** E. Frydendal to B. & A. Kalidoss for \$980,000
- 5632 Charlotte Way** J. Tweed to Garcia Trust for \$1,140,000
- 763 Del Mar Avenue** W. Lndalecio to N. & A. Bhatnagar for \$1,085,000
- 3326 Dyer Road** Sandford Family Trust to T. Fraser for \$1,500,000
- 1238 El Padro Drive** J. Gyllenhaal to D. & C. Paramanatham for \$1,200,000
- 1016 Essex Street** Rescue Home Now LLC to P. & M. Dsouza for \$1,150,000
- 1384 Fairbrook Court** Burnett Trust to M. & G. Colgate for \$1,150,000
- 245 Fennel Way** D. Garcia to S. & R. Patel for \$941,000

- 5588 Firestone Road** Ksciubba Trust to M. Kentgen for \$900,000
- 910 Flurry Drive** R. Boyapally to Y. & H. Rhew for \$1,070,000
- 6302 Forget Me Not** J. & C. Torres to T. & A. Nguyen for \$742,000
- 2307 Grosvenor Heights Court #C** Leabman Living Trust to A. & S. Kanwar for \$1,600,000
- 1606 Hollyhock Street** C. & A. Ahlgren to L. & A. Ben for \$900,000
- 2893 Kennedy Street** Lcs Ventures I LLC to S. & K. Wonacott for \$870,000
- 607 North Livermore Avenue** L. Harrison to Elrich Trust for \$950,000
- 5660 Mount Day Drive** F. Belena to J. Dyal for \$515,000
- 1001 Murrieta Boulevard #40** S. Ramos to K. & T. Sakogawa for \$455,000
- 1201 Notre Dame Court** J. Bernacil to Mccain Trust for \$1,170,000

- 1046 Onyx Road** H. & P. Skeim to V. & S. Rawat for \$1,175,000
- 2682 Pickfair Lane** T. & C. Anderson to L. & J. Young for \$1,025,000
- 1657 Placer Circle** E. & N. Stuempfig to C. & L. Alfaro for \$1,420,000
- 565 Saddleback Circle** M. & E. Larsen to S. Jolly for \$930,000
- 5114 Scenic Avenue** Barbera Trust to R. & C. Chikkeerappa for \$750,000
- 140 Selby Lane #2** Lara Family Trust to A. Keihl for \$705,000

Source: California REsource

Editor's note: The full list of Home Sales reported in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and San Ramon during this period can be found with the online version of this story at PleasantonWeekly.com.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Oct. 11-15)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$1,000,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,855,000
Average sales reported: \$1,780,000

Livermore (Oct. 11-15)

Total sales reported: 31
Lowest sale reported: \$455,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,000,000
Average sales reported: \$1,070,000

Dublin (Oct. 11-15)

Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$665,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,150,000
Average sales reported: \$1,300,000

San Ramon (Nov. 29-Dec. 3)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$579,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,558,000
Average sales reported: \$1,300,000

Source: California REsource

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Melody Beattie

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Take care and enjoy 2022.

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TOP 5% OF AGENTS KW TRI-VALLEY

2021 was a productive year for our Team. We were named the BEST Realtors in Pleasanton, completed over 70 transactions, and ranked as a Top 100 Team in the Bay Area. We are grateful for all of our dedicated Agents, and look forward to serving you in 2022.

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Happy New Year!

Thank you for your continued support and referrals. We could not have had as much success in 2021 without our neighbors and community. Give our Team a call if you or someone you know is looking to make a move this year!

Wishing you all the best in 2022



BEST REAL ESTATE AGENTS IN PLEASANTON

A FEW OF OUR *Sold* PROPERTIES IN 2021:

70+
Families Assisted
In 2021

\$108M+
Closed Sales
in 2021



3141 PELLARO CT, RUBY HILL
\$3,295,000



885 BRICCO CT, RUBY HILL
\$3,250,000



SPUMANTE DR, RUBY HILL
\$3,200,000



2133 POMEZIA CT, RUBY HILL
\$2,400,000



530 DOLORES PL, PLEASANTON
\$2,370,000



7954 RACoon HOLLOW CT, PLEASANTON
\$2,290,000



683 WINDMILL LN, PLEASANTON
\$2,241,200



1135 MATARO CT, PLEASANTON
\$1,997,500



911 KOTTINGER DR, PLEASANTON
\$1,775,000



4408 1ST ST, PLEASANTON
\$1,700,000



1532 LOGANBERRY WAY, PLEASANTON
\$1,850,000



75 TOURMALINE AVE, LIVERMORE
\$1,730,000



5210 DOOLAN RD, LIVERMORE
\$1,835,000



773 BARLETA LN, LIVERMORE
\$1,830,000



2743 SAN MINETE DR LIVERMORE
\$1,805,000



2762 VINE DR, LIVERMORE
\$1,700,000

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Coming Soon: Pleasanton



A Pleasanton Valley highly sought after one story home, the HOLIDAY Model. Formally charming best describes the entry of the home as it welcomes you into the home's open floor plan. 4 BD | 2 BA | 2,167 SqFt. of living space | side yard access | court location.



**Pending
Representing the Buyers**

682 Alameda, Livermore
4 BD | 3 BA | 1,981 SqFt.
Listed at \$1,399,000



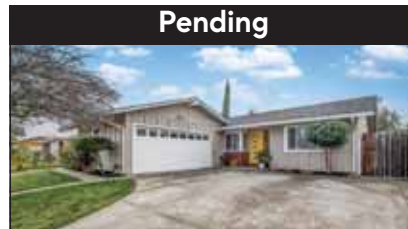
Coming Soon

Livermore - Close to the Downtown area, schools and parks.
3 BD | 2 BA | open beam ceiling family room | 1,344 SqFt. | side yard access.



Pending

284 Mavis Dr., Pleasanton
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,249 SqFt.
Listed at \$1,090,000



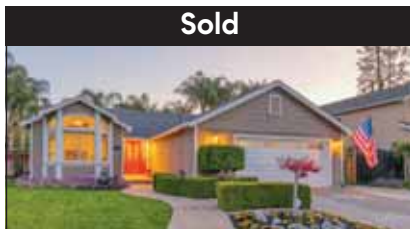
Pending

1598 Bluebell Dr., Livermore
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,280 SqFt.
Listed at \$895,000



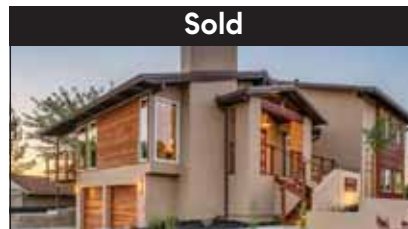
Sold

4550 Gatetree Cir., Pleasanton
4 BD | 2 BA | 1,808 SqFt. of living space
Listed at \$1,515,000
Sold at \$1,815,000



Sold

4686 Sutter Gate Ave., Pleasanton
3 BD | 2 BA plus an office | 1,963 SqFt.
Listed at \$1,585,000
Sold at \$1,685,000



Sold

4241 Bevilacqua Ct. Pleasanton
4 BD | 3 BA | 2,253 SqFt. of living space
Listed at \$1,890,000
Sold at \$1,940,000

Coming Soon



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