

Pleasanton Weekly

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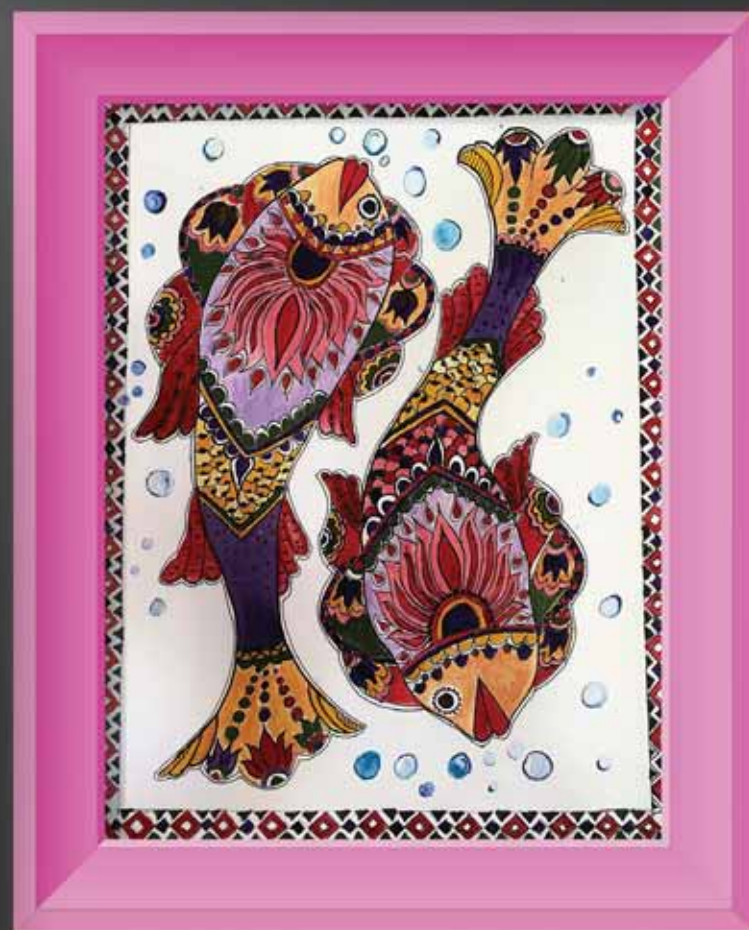
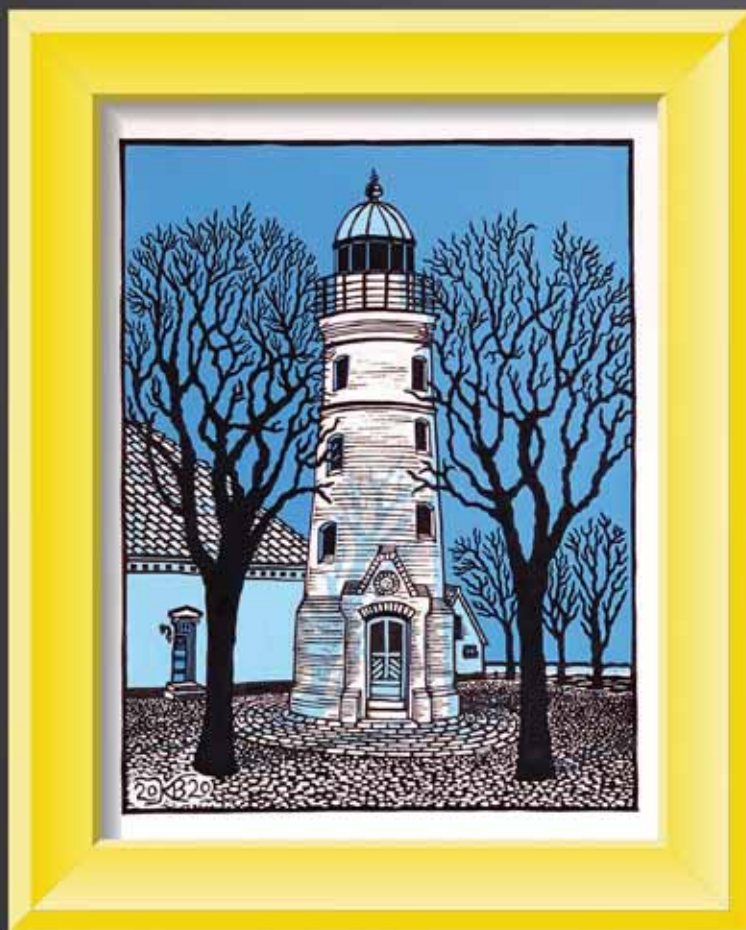
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Imagination Expressed 2022

Local artists show off their talents
at 14th annual art exhibit

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By **DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI**

Light a candle?

My husband opposed lighting candles in our home after he lit himself on fire in the late '80s.

We were at a reception at the Oriental Hotel in Bangkok one evening, and he had a cast on his foot due to ligaments torn when he stepped on a tennis ball. He perched near a wall, unfortunately close to a candle sconce, and his suit jacket caught fire — not dramatic flames but a fast-moving singe that I quickly patted out. He removed his jacket, carried it over his arm, and nobody seemed to notice, but it greatly impacted his opinions on candles.

I continued to burn a candle on the coffee table in the evenings as I worked on my laptop, until I got careless and the heat melted an unsightly blob in the back of the computer cover. After this I agreed: no lit candles in the house.

Then this winter, living alone and following the dictum, “One should be good to oneself during the pandemic,” I began to take care in creating a peaceful environment for my evenings, including candles.

On the coffee table are two candle holders perfect for tealights — one with a nighttime scene of a German village, the other Danish crystal, a gift from a friend. On my mantel I burn scented candles that come in glass jars, which I have splurged on recently.

Was I alone in this? I wondered. So I called Alexis Gass, owner of Clover Creek Gifts and Home Accents on Main Street to get her perspective on candles and their adherents through the 30 years since she opened the shop.

“People like to buy smaller candles for gifts, that are more than likely poured with decorative containers,” Alexis said. “The candle companies are always coming up with different ways to package candles, which makes it fun to give them.”

Candles are seasonal, she said. In the fall they are scented with pumpkin, cinnamon and apple, and in the winter, pine and fir are popular along with cranberry and bay leaf. In the summer she carries fewer and chooses those with a lighter scent.

“There are so many candle companies in the world, it’s unbelievable,” she noted. “I carry a lot of different lines, but three are very popular.”

Apparently it’s all about scent because Alexis said diffusers are picking



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Voluspa Moroccan Mint Tea candle is a popular gift item sold at Clover Creek.

up in popularity, with absorbable reeds that go in a bottle to soak up scented oil and gently disperse a pleasant aroma.

Flameless LED candles are popular for use in candle holders, she also said, giving off attractive light without the risk of fire, which worries many candle devotees.

“You don’t have to worry about the flame if you go to bed and forget, or walk out the front door and forget,” Alexis explained. “A lot of people who are older buy them because they tend to forget or relatives will buy them battery candles.”

“A lot of LED candles have remote control so you can sit in your easy chair and click it on and click it off,” she added.

They are also good for candle holders attached to the wall that are too high to reach easily, and some have timers. People also like flameless candles for use in lanterns that a real flame would make smokey.

A popular gift item now is kitchen towels, especially colorful ones with patterns and those with sayings, Alexis said, along with trinket dishes, lotions and one-size-fits-all cardigans and ponchos. But although candle sales decline after the holidays, they hold steady as a fallback item for a gift.

This information started me reflecting on what exactly I like about candles and whether it is my time in life to go flameless. I just bought a package of 100 six-hour tealights and several scented poured candles. They should last me through the winter and then I can reevaluate the risks.

Perhaps it’s time to learn more about diffusers. ■

About the Cover

Pleasanton Art League members will showcase their work during the 14th annual “Imagination Expressed 2022” at Museum on Main. Contributed photos. Design by Paul Llewellyn.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What are your thoughts on the current trend of many young couples who are deciding to not have children in favor of having pets (who they treat like children) instead?



Sally Lagomarsino
Industrial Hygienist

I think each couple needs to do what is best for them. But I am so happy that my own son and his wife went against that trend and I now have a beautiful, baby granddaughter!



Matt Marchetti
Engineer

I'm all for it. With the extremely high cost of living these days, especially here in the Bay Area, it is much more reasonable and feasible to love and provide excellent care for a dog than it is to have children.



Dave Olsen *Electrical Project Manager*

I think there should certainly be no rush for young couples to race into the lifetime of responsibilities that goes along with having children. At the same time though, there is no greater satisfaction in life than raising good, productive, decent children. It is up to each couple to decide what is right for their own relationship.



Sylvia Becker *Office Manager*

During the challenging times we are living in, young couples might be making a reasonable decision to not bring children into the world. And I know as an avid dog lover that our pets bring us enormous joy. However, as a grandmother, I can tell you that there is no greater source of joy than that which comes from human children and grandchildren.



Mckenzie Olsen
Real Estate Admin

As a young person, I think the movement to have dogs instead of kids — at least while I'm still in my 20's — is a good idea because it means we are waiting until we are really ready to have children while still enjoying the ability to love and raise another living being — our sweet little dog.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Sbranti appointed CLPCCD president

Former Dublin mayor and Chabot Las-Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) Area 5 Trustee Tim Sbranti was selected last month to serve as the new Board President for 2022.

Appointed to the board in 2019, Sbranti represents Trustee Area 5, which includes Pleasanton and Sunol as well as his hometown Dublin.

Sbranti expressed his gratitude to outgoing president and Trustee Genevieve Randolph for her service and leadership at the Dec. 14 board meeting. Randolph is moving out of the district, and therefore off of the board as well.

Currently the athletic director at Dublin High School and director of strategic initiatives at the Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group (ITV), Sbranti was previously on the Dublin City Council for more than a decade and elected to three mayoral terms. An active community volunteer, Sbranti holds a bachelor's degree and teaching credential in government and education from California State University, Sacramento.

MLK Day Open Mic

The San Ramon Valley Diversity Coalition is inviting members of the public to an open mic event in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at city hall in San Ramon.

Community members are invited to share their reflections on how Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, work, and continued legacy have impacted their lives via poetry, spoken word performances, and speeches. The event is hosted by the coalition, as well as the Town of Danville, the City of San Ramon, Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, District 2 Supervisor Candace Andersen.

Sunflower Hill receives \$5,000 grant

Sunflower Hill was recently awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Clif Family Foundation to support several of the nonprofit organization's programs including maintaining and operating the Sunflower Hill Garden.

Tools, materials and supplies for the organization's Hands-On Garden Group Program will be purchased with the grant funds. Sunhill will also use the funds to maintain organic produce donations.

Located at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore, the Sunflower Hill Garden produces thousands of organic produce annually with the help of program participants and volunteers. Participants are local adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. ■

PUSD reviews proposed trustee area boundaries

Public input sought on new district election map, including communities of interest

By JULIA BAUM

Three different maps proposed for use in future Pleasanton Unified School District trustee board elections were given an overview at a special town hall meeting on Tuesday.

"We do seek your input and your expertise," Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Ahmad Sheikholeslami said during the Jan. 11 livestreamed event. "This is your community. You guys have been living here many, many years and you all know the streets and roads better than us."

When the map is finished, PUSD's enrollment boundaries will be divided into five separate areas that would

be used in Board of Trustee elections, starting in the November general election. Each trustee will represent one of those areas and be required to live in the area they represent. A target population of approximately 16,203 residents has been suggested in each district area.

Voters will be limited to electing one trustee from among the candidates living in their area every four years, instead of electing from a pool of at-large candidates. Should nobody declare candidacy for a vacant trustee seat, a representative from that trustee area will be appointed by the board.

In addition to having communities of interest — such as a large

population that speaks another language than the one shared by the broader community — new trustee area maps can be "compact," "contiguous," "predictable and not jagged," and also identifiable by using natural boundaries, major roadways, "and other boundaries identified by residents."

Similar boundary shapes are shared in all three versions, with Trustee Area 1 encompassing west of I-680 and south of I-580, down to Sunol, along with both Lydiksen Elementary and Foothill High School. Donlon Elementary would also be included in the district's preferred version of Area 1.

Area 2 would be south of I-580,

east of Hopyard Road, north of Pleasanton Sports Park, and run along the Arroyo Mocho, ending at El Charro Road in east Pleasanton. Hart Middle and Fairlands Elementary School would also be within Area 2's boundaries.

At the center of all three maps is Area 3, which in the district's preferred Map 1 is west of Santa Rita Road, east of I-680, south of the Arroyo Mocho and Pleasanton Sports Park, and ends south at the Union Pacific railroad tracks. The proposed boundaries for Area 3 include Amador Valley Community Park and would run along parts of Black

See **BOUNDARIES** on Page 10



Rendering of the downtown Livermore hotel planned for 2205 Railroad Ave. set for completion in December 2025.

Livermore council moves downtown hotel project forward

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore City Council unanimously approved an amended and restated disposition, development and loan agreement (DDLA) with Davis-based hoteliers Presidio Companies to develop the downtown wine country hotel.

The agreement approved Monday night establishes the terms of the sale of the city-owned site to Presidio at the price of \$71,521 as well as terms for a \$1,923,750 loan to acquire an approximately 0.77-acre property at 2080 Railroad Ave. to develop a parking facility.

As longtime members of the City Council, Mayor Bob Woerner

and Councilmember Bob Carling both expressed enthusiasm during the meeting to be making progress on this project as they've endured the years-long delay and community debates on the issue.

"This is the third different council I've been on that has dealt with this issue and supported it all along the way," Carling said. "I'm eager to vote yes on this and to move forward," he added.

Woerner echoed similar sentiments, "I've been on this council a long time. This is my 11th year and we've been trying to get this done for a long time and there have been the impediments that have been thrown at us and I think it's time to get going here," he said.

The council took its vote after hearing more than an hour of public comment from residents, downtown business owners, winegrowers and nonprofit leaders. While nearly all the speakers said they were in favor of the downtown hotel and finally moving the project forward after years of delay, there were many concerns raised about the plans for parking.

The original plans for the hotel initially included an underground parking facility with 120 spaces, however, city staff said that increased construction costs over the course of the project delay

See **HOTEL** on Page 9

County bans smoking in multi-unit residences

Smoking in multi-unit residents in Alameda County's Unincorporated Areas will be prohibited in July, thanks to an unanimous vote from the county's board of supervisors on Tuesday.

After three years of discussion, policymakers passed the ordinance in hopes of preventing secondhand smoke in residential structures like apartments, townhomes, senior care facilities and any other residence with two or more units.

Starting July 1, smoking will also not be allowed in common outdoor and indoor areas or within 25 feet of any opening of a residence like a door or window.

"I represent some of the most at-risk residents of our county, with shorter life expectancies, poorer health outcomes and higher rates of asthma and other respiratory challenges," District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley said in a statement. "Today's action represents a collaboration between advocates, community members, health experts and property owners and is one step closer to cleaner air in our homes."

For people in multi-unit residences, which the board said are more likely to be people of color, lower-income and uninsured compared to those living in single-family homes, the effects of stay-at-home suggestions due to the COVID-19 pandemic can have compounding effects on their health.

"Today's passage of the multi-unit smoke free ordinance sends a

See **SMOKING** on Page 10

What to know about Newsom's budget blueprint

It's been a tumultuous few years in California, with record wildfire seasons, a worsening drought and a wave of smash-and-grab retail theft amid a coronavirus pandemic that just won't seem to end.

But when it comes to the state's finances, things are looking up. Way up. Tens of billions of dollars up.

On Monday, Gov. Gavin Newsom unveiled a \$286.4 billion budget proposal, 9% bigger than last year's record state spending plan. Buoyed by a strong economic recovery and tax revenues that continue to roll in even higher than anticipated, his administration projects a \$21 billion discretionary surplus for 2022-23, plus tens of billions more in extra cash for schools, pension payments and reserve accounts.

As he enters a reelection campaign, Newsom is taking advantage of California's unprecedented fiscal health to shift into crisis management mode. At a nearly three-hour press conference, he emphasized an agenda tackling what he characterized as the "greatest existential threats" facing the state — COVID-19, climate change and homelessness among them — while also sprinkling in some priorities, including an expansion of health care for undocumented immigrants, long sought by liberal supporters.

"This proposal will be considered in light of the challenges today, and we will back in light of the challenges that present themselves tomorrow," Newsom said.

The governor's framework is just the opening bid in negotiations with the Legislature, which must pass a budget by June 15 in order to get

paid — though the details are not worked out until well into the summer some years. A final deal could look significantly different from Newsom's proposal once lawmakers have their say, but the early response Monday from the Democratic majority was largely positive. Senate leader Toni Atkins said the governor's plan aligned with her goal of helping the neediest Californians.

Revenue projections, which administration officials said were calculated in December before the omicron variant sent COVID-19 cases surging again, could also change dramatically by May, when Newsom must submit a revised budget proposal.

Some pieces of his plan, including money to combat retail theft, were unveiled early as Newsom tried to stay on top of mounting political pressure. Following a series of brazen group robberies at malls and stores in numerous California cities last fall, Newsom announced in December that he would propose more than \$300 million in funding to put police outside businesses and to investigate and prosecute organized crime rings.

Here are other key areas from the governor's budget proposal:

COVID-19 returns to the forefront

That latest pandemic surge was top of mind in Newsom's spending plan. Administration officials rolled out a \$2.7 billion proposal for pandemic response over the weekend, ahead of the official announcement on Monday.

Newsom wants the Legislature to act quickly to approve about half of

the money as emergency assistance in the current fiscal year, to help overloaded hospitals hire additional staff and to expand testing and vaccination capacity. He also said he is in discussion with legislative leaders to bring back a supplemental paid sick leave program for workers who test positive for COVID-19, after allowing a previous version to expire last fall.

Potentially fulfilling a nearly decade-long push by activists, Newsom said he is ready to expand access to Medi-Cal, the state's health insurance program for the poor, to all California residents regardless of immigration status. The state has already opened Medi-Cal to undocumented residents until they turn 26 and once they turn 50, but making the program universally available would be a first nationwide. The expansion would take effect in 2024 and cover about 700,000 more people, at a cost of about \$2.2 billion per year.

Though he campaigned on the issue in 2018, Newsom was less willing to discuss a measure introduced in the Legislature last week that would transition California to a single-payer health care system, entirely publicly-funded and managed by the government.

"I have not had the opportunity to read that plan and no one has presented it to me," he said.

Will taxpayers get some money back?

State tax collection has been so robust that California may, for the first time in decades, exceed

See **BUDGET** on Page 7

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Proposals must be received in the Authority's Administrative Offices by 2:00 p.m. on January 25, 2022. No proposals will be accepted after this time and date.

Authority intends for this procurement to be primarily conducted electronically via distribution on the procurement page at www.valleylinkrail.com/doing-business; however, upon request, copies of the RFP may be obtained by contacting Authority at (925) 605-8442.

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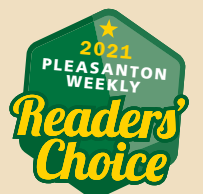
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BUDGET

Continued from Page 6

a constitutionally-mandated spending cap, above which any remaining money is split between schools and taxpayer rebates.

Newsom said his administration currently estimates the budget will be about \$2.6 billion higher than that limit in the coming fiscal year, though the number is expected to change when revised revenue projections are released in May. As a result, the governor held off on any proposals similar to the stimulus checks that the state sent to low- and middle-income households last year, though he said: “There likely will be substantial contributions back to the taxpayers.”

More immediate relief may come this summer at the pump. With gas prices climbing, Newsom proposed to forgo the annual increase to a fuel excise tax that would take effect in July, potentially lowering costs for drivers. That money — an estimated \$523 million to fund state and local road repairs and other transportation projects — could be replaced from another source.

Natural disasters fuel more spending on climate change

After another devastating year left millions of acres scorched across California, Newsom is again proposing to scale up the response to what has become one of the most vexing products of climate change for the state: a nearly year-round wildfire season.

The governor’s spending plan includes an additional \$1.2 billion over two years for programs to increase forest thinning, build fuel breaks, and help homeowners and fire-prone communities retrofit structures and improve defensible space. CalFire — whose budget has grown by more than \$1.5 billion over the past three years — would receive another \$248 million for new planes, crews and equipment.

The state has already committed to spending \$5.2 billion over three years to deal with the ongoing drought. But after some major reservoirs dropped to their lowest levels ever last fall, Newsom is seeking to add \$750 million more for water conservation programs, financial assistance for water agencies and grants for farmers to modify their operations.

Looking for climate solutions in a state where the transportation sector is now the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, the governor has gone all-in on zero-emission vehicles. Newsom signed an executive order in 2020 to phase out the sale of new gas-powered cars and passenger trucks by 2035. His budget proposal on Monday included nearly \$6.1 billion to accelerate the transition to cleaner vehicles, with a focus on school buses and commercial trucks.

“We believe this is the future,” he said. “If we don’t invest in the future, we’re not going to do very well there.”

Clearing ‘unacceptable’ homeless encampments

Though Newsom has made homelessness a central focus of his first three years in office, the entrenched and growing crisis — more visible than ever after the pandemic pushed many Californians into housing instability — is a frequent source of criticism for his opponents. Those who tried unsuccessfully last year to recall the governor pointed to it as one of his greatest failures, while Republican lawmakers have urged him to call a special session to directly confront the issue.

Newsom’s budget proposal on Monday included another \$2 billion to build on what has been one of his most notable recent policy successes: distributing grants to local governments to quickly convert vacant hotels, motels and other buildings into thousands of units of supportive housing for homeless people. His plan would spend \$1.5 billion over the next two years to provide tiny homes and other interim housing as a bridge while more of the

permanent units are completed, plus \$500 million to help local officials clear encampments.

“What’s happening on the streets and sidewalks in our state is unacceptable,” said Newsom, who hinted that he would also pursue legislation this year to strengthen a law that allows officials to force people into treatment if they cannot care for themselves. While these conservatorships are a controversial approach among advocates, Newsom said they can be necessary in cases of severe mental health or substance abuse problems.

“We’re not satisfied with the status quo, in terms of the tools in our tool kit to help people that are struggling and are putting themselves in harm’s way,” he said. “I don’t want to see any more people die on the streets and call that compassion.”

Averting a funding crisis for local schools

Newsom’s proposed spending includes a record \$119 billion for K-12 schools — nearly the size of the

entire state budget a decade ago — but some local districts are still sounding the alarm about a looming fiscal cliff stemming from plummeting enrollment and attendance.

The governor aims to avert this potential calamity by giving districts more flexibility in how they report their average daily attendance, which the state uses to determine their funding. Under Newsom’s proposal, schools could use whatever is highest among the previous year’s attendance, the current year’s or an average of the three most recent years.

“It’s a better option than the sudden drop,” said Harold Sullins, an associate superintendent at San Bernardino City Unified.

The budget would also provide \$54 million to help districts recruit teachers, including by waiving examination and credentialing fees. Amid the spread of the omicron variant, staffing shortages across the state threaten school closures in some districts.

More in-state students and equity at colleges

With a new goal of ensuring 70% of working-age adults receive some type of college credential by 2030 — up from 52% in 2019, according to one measure — Newsom’s budget proposal envisions a five-year plan to dramatically expand in-state enrollment at the University of California and California State University.

The state would provide money this year to add room for 9,400 more California students at CSU and 7,100 at UC, where some would take slots normally reserved for out-of-state applicants.

Then over the next four years, each system would get a 5% annual funding increase if they meet key targets, including expanding in-state enrollment by another 1%, increasing graduation rates and closing student equity gaps across racial and economic groups. By the 2026-27 academic year, that would mean another 7,000 California students at UC and 14,000 at CSU. ■

— Alexei Koseff, CalMatters

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Holiday Fund

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

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

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

As of January 9, 291 donors have contributed \$72,285 to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund.

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Holiday Fund

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I wish to designate my contribution as follows (select one):

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In honor of: In memory of: As a gift for:

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The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is a field of interest fund of Three Valleys Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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

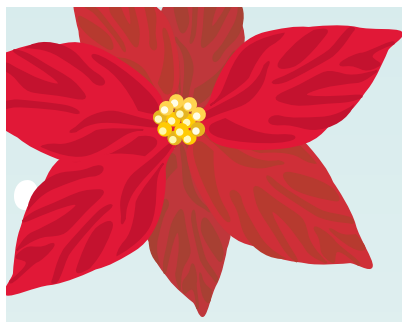
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c/o Three Valleys Community Foundation
5960 Inglewood Dr., Suite 201
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Thank you to our generous donors

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Our dear friend, Mrs. Gina Woeger, from Ron & Kathy Anderson	200
Owen Saupe, from Rebecca Saupe	100
Marilyn Bender	**
Tony Costello, from Edward Costello	200
Maurice I. Smith, from Carol Smith	50
Marilyn Bowe, from James Bowe	100
Albert & Marla Feldman, from Debra & Evan Miller	100

IN HONOR OF

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

AS A GIFT FOR

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

DeBernardi Development Construction & Remodeling	**
Time 4 Order Professional Organizing	**
Charles Huff Architect, A.I.A.	**
J.E. Moore Air Conditioning Inc.	500
Pleasanton Newcombers Club	500
Rita CPA	251
P-Town Push Rods	1,000
The Pleasanton-Livermore Junior Women's Club	100

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



Site map showing the location of the downtown hotel building at 2205 Railroad Ave. and the hotel parking facility at 2080 Railroad Ave.

HOTEL

Continued from Page 5

— due to citizen-submitted referendum petitions and the COVID-19 pandemic — led to the determination that an underground parking garage was no longer feasible.

This determination led to the newly approved solution for the city to loan Presidio \$1.9 million to purchase a nearby plot of land to develop a surface valet parking facility.

Save Livermore Downtown spokesperson Jean King said during public comment that the referendums did not cause the project's delay. "The 2018 referendum had nothing to do with the hotel's parking requirements," she said, adding that the "developer's decision to pursue surface parking preceded both of the 2019 ballot measures."

"The reality is that the hotel developer wants surface parking instead of underground parking because it would save them millions of dollars," she continued.

She also urged the council to not approve the DDLA in her comments because she said the property they plan to use for the parking lot is inadequate based on the Downtown Specific Plan, which requires commercial uses in the downtown core to park off-site within the downtown core. "2080 Railroad is not in the downtown core," she said.

Later in the meeting, City Manager Marc Roberts confirmed that the parking plan does comply with the Downtown Specific Plan requirements. "The question was raised having to do with the location of where the valet parking lot actually is and the item that was discussed had to do with where the actual car is picked up from, so in the case of valet parking, it's where the pickup point is that is within your downtown core," Roberts said.

A number of other speakers during the meeting said that the parking lot for the hotel being on a separate side of the street from the hotel building would create traffic congestion on Railroad Avenue and would be an inconvenience for hotel guests who wouldn't be able to easily access their vehicles. Some speakers brought up an automated parking garage as an alternative that wouldn't take up as

much space as a traditional parking lot.

Other speakers also questioned the need for the city to provide a loan to Presidio to construct the parking lot, arguing that the company should be able to afford to buy the land with its own funds.

The terms of the loan include a 3.5% interest rate, which reflects an agreement to lease the parcel back to the city for use as overflow parking while the new L Street parking garage is under construction, according to the staff presentation.

Those who spoke in favor of approving the DDLA agreement highlighted in their comments that the loan would be returned to the city with interest within three years and therefore would actually be a benefit to the city.

Supporters of the plan also expressed the need to move forward with the hotel project as a crucial step in finally completing the ongoing downtown revitalization plan.

Former mayor John Marchand criticized opponents of the project in his comments, referring to opposition tactics being used to stall its progress as "bad theater."

He added, "That's to be expected, since it's orchestrated by the leadership of the Bankhead Theater. Very simply, the reason for their opposition is the wine country hotel next to the Bankhead. They hope that if they can eliminate the parking, they can eliminate the hotel -- a hotel which was supported by over two-thirds of Livermore voters in Measure P."

In addition to the surface parking facility, plans for the completed four-story hotel include between 125-135 rooms with an approximately 3,300 square foot bar/lounge, 1,500-2,000 square foot meeting space, rooftop deck, fitness center, outdoor pool and an open courtyard and patio.

According to city staff's current timeline, the next steps include the Planning Commission and City Council review of the site plan and hotel design to occur in March and April of this year, respectively. Transfer of the property from the city to Presidio will also occur in April. Construction would begin no later than May 2024 and the hotel opening would be no later than December 2025. ■

BOUNDARIES

Continued from Page 5

Avenue, Hopyard and Ridgewood roads, plus Division and St. Mary streets, with both Walnut Grove Elementary and Harvest Park Middle School included in the boundaries.

Area 4 would include Amador Valley High plus Mohr and Alisal Elementary, with its boundaries extending east to El Charro Road, south of the Arroyo Mocho, north of Vineyard Avenue and Kottinger Drive, and west to Santa Rita.

Area 5 would be just south of

Vineyard and Kottinger, west of Vallecitos Road, east of I-680 and north of the city boundaries, with both Vintage Hills and Hearst Elementary as well as Pleasanton Middle School included.

PUSD could be ready for the November general election, when both seats currently filled by Board

President Mark Miller and Trustee Joan Laursen will be up for grabs. Miller and Laursen have both said they do not plan to seek reelection.

No public comments about the proposed maps were received that evening but another community workshop about the remapping

process is scheduled in early March. Regular updates will also be delivered at upcoming board meetings. An interactive map and more information about the district's transition from at-large to by-trustee-area elections can be found on the district's website, pleasantonusd.net. ■

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SMOKING

Continued from Page 5

powerful message to our unincorporated community that their health and wellbeing are of the utmost importance to the County," District 3 Supervisor Dave Brown said in a statement. "As we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, I

appreciate the work of our Public Health Department to help ensure the safety of our residents during this difficult time."

Those in violation of the ordinance will receive three notices from the county's public health department before being fined in amounts from \$100 to \$500. Residents with three warnings and three fines are

also subject to eviction from their landlord.

A 2020 La Familia survey of Eden Area residents in unincorporated Alameda County reported 93 percent of participants smelled smoke or vape fumes in their unit.

"This Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Ordinance will change the lives of those suffering from

secondhand smoke now and will contribute to a healthier, more equitable, living standard for future generations to come," stated Jade Le, program manager with La Familia. "The Board of Supervisors are setting a precedent for safe, smoke-free living with such a comprehensive policy." ■

— Olivia Wynkoop, BCN Foundation

**BUSINESS
IN BRIEF**

Trumark projects

Trumark Homes, a real estate development firm based in San Ramon, recently confirmed four of its new Northern California residential projects sold out all of its homes months ahead of schedule, including the new Edendale development in Danville.

Edendale in Danville, located near Camino Tassajara and Sherburne Hills Road, featured 18

unscale houses, some of which have accessory dwelling units as well.

New UNCLE leaders

Livermore-based UNCLE Credit Union recently welcomed two new members to its executive team.

Terry Bishop, who has more than two decades of executive experience in the financial services industry, has been brought in as the new vice president, chief financial officer. Bishop is also a member of the U.S. Army Reserve and a board member of the Financial Managers Society.

UNCLE has also hired Betina Marcelo as its vice president of mortgage lending, citing her "deep

expertise in lending, auditing and team building" who has a long background in real estate as well. She will be responsible for oversight and direction of UNCLE's mortgage lending functions.

Economic drivers

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the city of Pleasanton this month have honored three local companies as economic drivers — examples of businesses that highlight "Pleasanton as the premier destination for innovation and entrepreneurship in the Tri-Valley."

The three Pleasanton companies are Engimata, which specializes in vaccines; IrisVision Global, which

focuses on vision health in the digital age; and Paxon Energy & Infrastructure, a fast-growing professional services firm for the oil, gas and utilities industries.

"Pleasanton's 2021 economic drivers represent a diverse range of leading innovative industries and professionals that have made a successful home in Pleasanton," Mayor Karla Brown said in a statement.

Chamber President/CEO Steve Van Dorn added, "This year, we're pleased to honor these amazing businesses from Pleasanton that are leading the way in growing their companies and also setting a great example for other local businesses that aspire to do the same." ■

Winter activities and staying healthy are in the air!

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**Pleasanton
Weekly**



Opinion

GUEST OPINION

BY DAN WALTERS

Newsom bases budget on rosy economic scenario

The early passages in a 400-page “summary” of Gov. Gavin Newsom’s new budget describe the presumably wonderful ways he intends to spend nearly \$300 billion in the 2022-23 fiscal year.

They include what he clearly hopes will make a re-election year splash and become one of his legacies — extending state medical coverage to 100% of California’s nearly 40 million residents by folding in undocumented immigrants ineligible for federally financed care.

During a nearly three-hour news conference in which he showed off his prodigious memory of data, Newsom also touted new spending on five “existential threats” to California, including climate change, COVID-19,

homelessness, the cost of living and crime.

New commitments are doable, he said, because of tens of billions of unanticipated tax dollars, largely from the state’s highest-income taxpayers, who are seeing huge profits on stocks and other investments.

The back pages of the budget summary explain why Newsom believes that the overall economy, and particularly the personal finances of the wealthy, will continue to pump billions into the state treasury for at least a few more years.

The rosy scenario begins with an assumption that the COVID-19 pandemic, despite the sharp surge by its omicron strain, will diminish.

“The public health situation is the linchpin of the economic forecast,” the budget declares. “The forecast does not assume the emergence of a disruptive variant, which could lead to a delayed return to pre-pandemic labor force participation, persistent high inflation, and continued supply chain bottlenecks.”

The budget “projects continued real GDP growth throughout the forecast period and recovery to pre-pandemic levels of nonfarm employment

by the end of 2022,” but adds, “Structural (non-pandemic) downside risks to the forecast remain, including the challenges of an aging population, declining migration flows, lower fertility rates, higher housing and living costs, increasing inequality, and stock market volatility.”

That last caveat, “stock market volatility,” is the real potential kicker. The top 1% of California taxpayers are providing at least 50% of the state’s income tax revenues and their taxable incomes are largely tied to the stock market, which has surged recently, thanks largely to the Federal Reserve System’s very low interest rates.

Were interest rates to be raised significantly to battle inflation, it would have an adverse effect on the stock market and, in turn, on California’s income tax revenues.

With California having such a narrow revenue base in a relative handful of high-income taxpayers and their taxable incomes being rooted in stocks and other investments subject to wide swings of value, any long-term revenue estimates are educated guesses at best.

It’s called “volatility,” a syndrome that has backfired on California’s budget more than once.

“No one is naïve about the volatility of the tax system,” Newsom said Monday, contending that careful spending and building reserves guard against the boom-and-bust conditions that have afflicted the state in past years.

His budget declares that “the state’s budget resilience is stronger than ever: the result of building reserves, eliminating budgetary debt, reducing retirement liabilities, and focusing on one-time spending over ongoing

investments to maintain structurally balanced budgets over the long term.”

The budget’s \$34.6 billion in projected reserves sound impressive, but a truly serious and prolonged recession, such as the one that struck 15 years ago, could quickly deplete them.

There’s been an ongoing debate over whether revenue volatility should be tamed by reducing the state’s dependence on taxing the rich or by building big reserves. Under Newsom’s predecessor, Jerry Brown,

the state opted for the “rainy day fund” approach but it has yet to face a serious challenge. ■

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.



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LETTERS

Special interest groups remain a problem

I wish to thank Joan Seppala for stopping development in Livermore in the last century. In hindsight, it’s obvious the last thing we need is more townhouses sprawling over our valley.

I mention Joan Seppala specifically because I remember the editorial in the Independent, the newspaper she owns, congratulating her for opposing the development. No one was in favor of it except those developers convinced using ads from their special-interest groups.

This week the City Council voted unanimously for a hotel garage because of past city-wide votes supporting the project, along with the in favor of vineyard owners, their workers, and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce. Everyone wanted the development except those convinced by ads from special-interest groups.

Special-interest groups opposing the public good remain a problem in Livermore, from the last century

to this one. The only difference is that now they’re all funded by Joan Seppala.

— Alan Marling

Vote Ahern for Alameda County Sheriff

With all the unrest across the country and Bay Area with crime it’s hard for me to understand why anyone would think we need a new Sheriff. Criminals are taking over the system and all we get from politicians is defund the police.

Greg Ahern is the only thing standing up against these criminals. We saw it in the Tri-Valley last year with carloads of thugs wanting to get off the freeway exits around Dublin and other cities. The Highway Patrol and Alameda County Sheriff department turned them away.

Look what happened in Oakland, San Francisco and San Leandro. Total destruction because these city leaders sat back and let business get destroyed.

Vote for Greg Ahern for Alameda County Sheriff!!

— Mike Grant

PUBLIC NOTICE

Cellco Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing building located at 1811 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton, Alameda Co., CA 94566. The modifications will consist of the collocation of antennas within a proposed cupola with a top height of 42ft on the existing 25ft building. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Project 6122000043 - TC c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, tcubie@ebiconsulting.com, or via telephone at (339) 234-2597.

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

On March 3, 2020 Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and has issued Executive Order N-29-20 and approved AB 361 suspending provisions of the Brown Act allowing meetings via teleconferencing and members of the public to observe and offer comments telephonically or electronically. The virtual meetings will be streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton> and <https://www.tri-valleytv.org>.

- Public Hearing - Adopt a resolution of intention to renew the Tri-Valley Tourism Marketing District and a resolution requesting consent to administer assessments
- Public Hearing - Receive input from the community regarding boundaries and composition of districts to be established for City Councilmember district-based elections pursuant to Elections Code Section 10010 and provide initial direction to demographer on composition of draft maps
- Housing Element Update - Review and approve potential sites to be considered for future rezoning for residential development and inclusion in the environmental analysis as part of the Sites Inventory for the 2023-2031 (6th Cycle) Housing Element Update

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

The California Legislature is back: What to expect in 2022

Same issues of COVID, housing, climate change

SAMEEA KAMAL / CALMATTERS

Another coronavirus variant spreading like wildfire, and another huge state budget surplus: In some ways, 2022 is off to a similar start as 2021.

That could carry over to the state Legislature's new session that started last week. In addition to the pandemic and surplus, California is dealing with some of the same big issues it has long grappled with — including housing and climate change.

“Our challenges continue to be the challenges that we have started and built momentum to work towards,” Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, a San Diego Democrat, told CalMatters.

The difference? Looking at key issues more through a lens of equity, she said.

The state Assembly's agenda shares those priorities, said Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, a Lakewood Democrat. Access to health care will be another focus: “We're proud of where we are as a state, but we need to make sure that everybody in the state is covered.”

Where will things look a little different? The state Capitol complex is undergoing renovations, which means the “Bacteria Bear” is safely in storage for now.

The public and press will be allowed to attend in person, but due to COVID, access and seating will continue to be limited, masks and social distancing will be required and meetings will continue to be livestreamed.

“We had hoped that as we go back, we'd be through the pandemic, but it hasn't gone away,” Atkins said. “We're going to have to continue to bear that in mind.”

There's also the makeup of the Legislature itself. Following the redistricting process after the 2020 census, state Senate and Assembly district lines have been shaken up — and a number of lawmakers will be lame ducks this session because they're not running for re-election in 2022.

Here are four themes to watch in the new legislative session:

Cash rules

Compared to the projecting a \$31 billion surplus in the general fund, plus \$20 billion in Proposition 98 funding for education.

The windfall is fueled, like last year, with tax revenue and federal funds. In addition, the November cap-and-trade auction generated

\$732 million, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office.

In his budget proposal that is due by Jan. 10, Gov. Gavin Newsom has vowed to include more than \$350 million to stop organized retail thefts, plus more money for dyslexia programs after authoring a children's book on his own battles. He's also hinted that he'll include another round of stimulus checks.

Neither of the spending priority lists put out by Senate or Assembly leaders mention a stimulus check. Instead, they are framing the budget around a more inclusive economic recovery, and a more equitable economy.

Atkins said California's economy is strong, but that wealth needs to be put to work.

“Those at the top are doing better than ever before, and that's good for California in terms of our revenue,” Atkins said in an interview. “But as strong as the economy is, we face a homelessness crisis that you see every day in every corner of the state. And we know how hard it is for every day, ordinary families to get by.”

The Senate plan builds on 2021 programs, including targeted relief such as the child tax credit, Earned Income Tax Credit and small business aid.

Senate and Assembly leaders also say they will seek to put more money into K-12 schools and higher education, and to maintain the state's reserves — “to protect the

progress we are making from future downturns,” Atkins said. Last year, the Legislature was able to maintain \$25 billion in reserves.

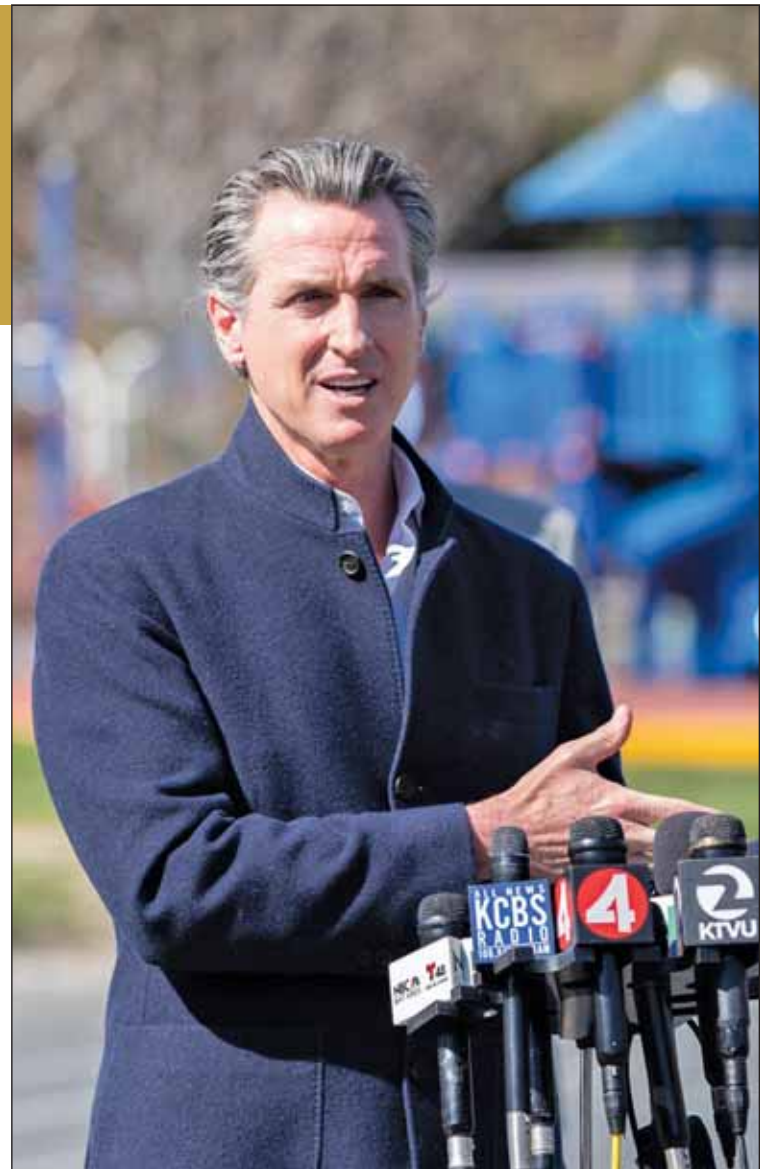
Rendon said that the budget surplus would enable California to “rebuild infrastructure in every corner of the state.” Meanwhile, Senate Republicans are calling for \$3.3 billion to be spent on water projects, most for the contentious Sites Reservoir.

Expending one-time funds on infrastructure would help the Legislature avoid exceeding the Gann Limit, which requires that when the state hits a spending revenue threshold two years in a row, the excess money must be reimbursed to taxpayers or spent on schools. Revenue spent on building reserves and paying off debt is excluded from the limit.

Jason Sisney, Rendon's budget advisor, noted that the Gann limit did not kick in last year, despite the historic surplus.

Assembly Budget Chairperson Phil Ting, a San Francisco Democrat, told reporters last month that with less money than last year to expand programs, the Legislature is likely to employ more creative one-time funding measures, including on transportation and transit, which didn't receive as much funding in 2021.

“We're definitely not back towards normal, but as we sort of come out of the pandemic a little bit, it's not exactly clear where the



MAGALI GAUTHIER

Gov. Gavin Newsom addresses reporters on new state legislation for the reopening of schools at a local elementary school on March 2, 2021.

best investments are and where the biggest impact is,” Ting said.

“This is what the budget process is for. We have from now 'til June to really identify where we can make the biggest impact.”

And while there is a budget surplus, Rendon said one challenge this year is to make sure that the Legislature is fiscally responsible,

and that big and small cities alike get their fair share.

Guns and abortion

In the final weeks of 2021, two hot-button issues reemerged and landed squarely on the legislative agenda.

While California already has some of the nation's toughest gun control laws, some are tied up in court. So Newsom went after guns and tied the issue to abortion.

He took a page from Texas' playbook after the U.S. Supreme Court allowed that state's ban on abortions after six weeks of pregnancy to stand in December ruling. Newsom vowed to work with state lawmakers and Attorney General Rob Bonta — whom he appointed — to draft a bill that would allow private citizens to sue anyone who manufactures, distributes or sells illegal assault weapons or “ghost” guns, modeling it after Texas' unusually structured abortion law.

The Texas abortion law has also prompted advocates and lawmakers to double down on abortion access in California.

A task force appointed by Newsom is recommending measures to make California a “sanctuary state” for abortions, including helping to pay for the procedure, along with travel, lodging and other costs for women who come to California



NATALIA NAZAROVA

Hundreds of protesters march and carry signs Oct. 2 to support reproductive rights and protest Texas' ban on abortions.

because their states limit access.

Potentially, that could be tens of millions of dollars in state taxpayer money. If the U.S. Supreme Court effectively repeals *Roe vs. Wade* next summer, advocates say that could lead to 26 states immediately banning or severely limiting abortions. California would then become the closest state with broad abortion access within driving distance for 1.4 million women.

Other issues

On other issues such as housing and climate change mitigation, legislative leaders said they plan to see through the investments they made last year.

That includes more affordable housing for families, as well as more permanent and temporary supportive housing for homeless people. To figure out what's working and what's not, Rendon said incoming Assembly Housing Committee chairperson Buffy Wicks, an Oakland Democrat, will review accountability of state programs on housing, rent relief and homelessness.

"We're kind of hesitant to change our approach drastically," Rendon said. "We've invested again, \$12 billion over two years. Rather than continually changing our ways of dealing with homelessness, if there are mid-course corrections that need to be made then we should do that."

As part of bolstering California's safety net, both chambers plan to continue investments in public health. Legislators are also expected to revisit single-payer health care — one of Newsom's campaign promises — and a plan to create an "Office of Health Care Affordability" to set cost targets for health plans, hospitals, physician groups and prescription drugs.

Advocacy groups have called on Newsom to lower deductibles before Medi-Cal will pay the costs of healthcare. Others have asked the Legislature to ensure that federal funds from the proposed Build Back Better bill boost programs for seniors and those with disabilities.

Progressives and labor groups also plan to push to restore emergency paid sick leave for COVID-19, which expired Sept. 30. SEIU California says that additional sick leave is even more important with shortened quarantine requirements for healthcare workers who are "being called to sacrifice and risk our lives again" despite the surge fueled by the omicron variant.

Children are also a priority area, including investments in mental health resources for students and to address learning losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. State Sen. Nancy Skinner, a Berkeley Democrat, plans to introduce a bill to create savings accounts of as much as \$5,000 for children whose parents died from the virus. Also, it's likely that lawmakers will



California lake with very low water from years of drought.

MSCORNELIUS

revisit a highly-charged debate that has led to death threats previously: Whether to narrow or eliminate the personal belief exemption from the vaccine mandate for K-12 students and staff.

Rendon, who was part of the California delegation that attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Scotland in November, said the Assembly also plans to ramp up its efforts to meet the state's 2030 climate goals, including lowering carbon emissions. Rendon also said there would likely be more focus on single-use plastics, building on last year's bills.

Atkins said the Senate plans to continue finding ways to prevent wildfires and addressing drought, water and sea level rise.

State water agencies have also recommended updated water use efficiency goals for water suppliers: 55 gallons per person per day by 2023, declining to 47 gallons per day by 2025, and 42 gallons by 2030. To take effect, the standards would need to be adopted by the Legislature.

Also in 2022, the conversations around law enforcement and criminal justice reform are likely to continue, including another attempt to reform cash bail after voters in 2020 overturned a more sweeping law. Laws passed in 2021 included allowing a state commission to decertify police officers for wrongdoing, and limiting police use of rubber bullets and other less lethal weapons at protests and demonstrations.

Assembly leaders also say they plan to increase oversight at the problem-plagued Employment Development Department, including a strike team plan to help Californians receive their unemployment benefits.

Finally, legislators could reconsider any of the 66 bills that they passed but that Newsom vetoed. But there's little discussion of doing so. It takes a two-thirds vote of both the Assembly and Senate to override a veto, and that hasn't happened since 1980.

Hellos and goodbyes

Say hello to your new districts, and goodbye to some lawmakers.

Following every census, state legislative and congressional boundaries are redrawn to account for population changes. On Dec. 27, the state's independent redistricting commission certified its new maps.

The commission drew the lines

from scratch without taking current district lines or incumbents into account. As usual, that means there will be some musical chairs as legislators compete against fellow incumbents drawn into the same district, try to appeal to voters in a new district or decide to run for higher office.

So far, 10 legislators have announced that 2022 will be their last session and they won't seek re-election, while seven others hit term limits. And three — Democratic Assemblymembers Ed Chau of Monterey Park in Los Angeles County, David Chiu of San Francisco and Jim Frazier of Fairfield — have already resigned, so there will be special elections to replace them.

Rendon said that not having a full slate of Assembly members can be difficult, but that he hopes all those seats are filled as soon as possible.

"It's difficult from the standpoint that they're friends, it's hard to see them go," said Rendon. "At the same time, we've had a tremendous amount of turnover, and that's brought on freshmen, and opportunities for people like Mia Bonta, Akilah Weber and Isaac Bryan. The freshmen have a lot to offer as well, and the turnover also offers opportunities for new chairs and leadership."

Rendon also reaffirmed that he isn't planning to step aside early: "I've got a job to do, and I'll do it until 2024." ■



Assemblymembers on the floor during the first day of the legislative session on Jan. 3, 2022.

MIGUEL GUTIERREZ JR., CALMATTERS

Community Pulse

Jose Bautista

October 15, 1928 – December 11, 2021

On December 11, 2021, Jose Gil (Joe) Bautista died peacefully at home in Pleasanton, CA of natural causes. He was 93 years old.



He was a first generation Spaniard born at Hayward Hospital October 15, 1928. He was an only child who learned how to read and write English then taught his immigrant parents. While Joe didn't finish high school, he did attend Stanford at the age of 15 and graduated from San Jose State in the first engineering class with honors.

His early career was with the City of San Leandro. Soon after he met Helen Louise Conway while cruising on the San Leandro strip. They married in 1953 and had three children: Steven, Joy and Jimmy. After leaving the City of San Leandro he started his own small construction company, Bautista Construction, building mainly in San Leandro and the East Bay. His success allowed him to retire at a somewhat early age. He and Helen travelled all over the world, until her death in 1987.

Joe found love again with Sharry Greene, his 2nd wife, and continued to travel extensively, mainly on cruises. (His lifelong travels led him to set foot on every continent, except one.) They enjoyed golfing at Castlewood Country Club. Unfortunately, Sharry passed away after almost 25 years of marriage.

Joe loved the Raiders, taught 4-H and coached baseball while his children were growing up. He enjoyed spending time with his family, piecing together jigsaw puzzles and solving sudoku. He always had a joke or a story to tell: being the life of the party. He lived life to the fullest. He is survived by his three children, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Services will be postponed 'til Summer of 2022.

PAID OBITUARY

Margaret Vaughn

February 1, 1930 – December 22, 2021

Margaret was born on February 1, 1930, in Gray's Landing, PA. She was the youngest child of John and Mary Matejck, who moved to PA from Czechoslovakia in the early 1900s. She graduated from Masontown High School in Fayetteville, PA before moving to San Francisco with a friend from PA in the early 50s and took a job as phone operator and later booking passengers at Bonanza Airlines. Margaret met her husband Clyde, an air-traffic controller, while working for Bonanza. They fell in love, were married, and welcomed their daughters Dale in 1956 and Janice in 1958. They moved often in the early years following Clyde's work, eventually settling in Pleasanton. She and Clyde built a successful downtown business as they raised and cherished their family. While in Pleasanton, Margaret developed tastes for good food and wine, horse racing, and golf. She also traveled widely, visiting every continent except Antarctica.



Margaret will be lovingly remembered by her granddaughter Morgan Arnold of Huntington Beach, CA. She was preceded in death by her husband Clyde and daughters Janice and Dale. Her loving spirit and witty sense of humor will be missed by all who knew her.

Friends and family are invited to a graveside burial ceremony for Margaret scheduled for 10:00 am January 17, 2022, at Pioneer Cemetery in Pleasanton.

"The Dale Vaughn-Bowen Scholarship," Soroptimist of the Tri-Valley, to honor her late daughter. Donations may be sent to 7929 Shady Creek Rd, Dublin, CA 94568.

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE BULLETIN

Hit-and-run suspect arrested after fleeing crash

A suspect who fled the scene of a two-car crash on Stoneridge Drive was captured and arrested shortly after by Pleasanton police on Jan. 6.

An alert for a stolen truck out of East Palo Alto was received by Pleasanton Police Department dispatch about ten minutes before the arrest, which took place at approximately 2:30 p.m. The vehicle was spotted traveling westbound on Bernal Avenue approaching I-680, and, according to PPD, "when officers initiated a traffic stop, the driver refused to pull over and sped onto northbound I-680."

Officers then pursued the suspect, who "began driving recklessly on the right shoulder," until ending the chase around the area of West Las Positas Boulevard. Upon exiting at Stoneridge Drive, officers saw the stolen vehicle, which had been involved in a collision. The suspect fled the scene but was "quickly found" hiding in the bushes at a nearby Park & Ride parking lot.

The suspect, 30-year-old Sophia Ornelas from San Jose, was later booked at Santa Rita Jail for being in possession of a stolen vehicle, felony evading, and felony hit-and-run. None of the occupants in the other vehicle were seriously injured.

The California Highway Patrol is investigating the collision, per PPD's policy. Anyone with information is asked to call 931-5100.

—Julia Baum

In other news

- The Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Association announced a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the killer of an Alameda County Sheriff's Department recruit.

David V. Nguyen, 28, was shot and killed near the Bay Bridge Toll Plaza in Oakland while driving home from work on Jan. 4. A member of the Sheriff's Department 172nd academy class, Nguyen was also set to graduate next month from City College of San Francisco, where he was an



PLEASANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Suspect Sophia Ornelas, 30, from San Jose, fled the scene of a hit-and-run collision and was found hiding in bushes at a Park and Ride parking lot.



PLEASANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pleasanton police arrested the suspect of a hit-and-run collision that happened at Stoneridge Drive on Jan. 6.

administration of justice student.

ACSO told local media outlets that Nguyen was killed for "no apparent reason." A motive for the crime has not been discovered.

As of Tuesday, more than \$67,300 has been raised on a GoFundMe page set up by family and friends of Nguyen. Anyone with information about Nguyen's murder is asked to contact the California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division.

- With fewer notable local crimes in recent weeks, Tri-Valley law enforcement agencies have had more time to connect with their communities in a variety of ways.

On Monday, the Pleasanton Police Department posted on social media that their members recently spent one early morning touring a Pleasanton Unified School District site, where they learned about ongoing construction.

PPD said, "In public safety, the learning never stops," and added, "in case there are any calls from

the schools, our staff is better prepared and ready to help keep you safe."

Livermore police also helped cover graffiti with a fresh coat of paint near North P and Chestnut streets and the North P Street underpass earlier this month as part of their "team effort helping beautify the city," according to a social media post on Tuesday.

The Livermore Police Department is encouraging residents to report graffiti in their area by calling the graffiti hotline at 960-8060.

- Former television news reporter Azenith Smith recently joined the Livermore Police Department communications team, following a seven-year run reporting in the South Bay for KTVU Fox 2 News.

Sgt. Steve Goard made the announcement in a video posted to social media on Jan. 5. In addition to handling media inquiries, Smith said she will also manage the department's social media accounts and take part in community engagement programs.

"You'll most likely see me out in the community and, if you do, come and say hi," Smith said. "I can't wait to meet everybody and I'm really very excited about this new opportunity."

Originally from Milpitas, Smith has lived in Livermore for five years. ■

—Julia Baum

Visit Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances.
Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

Go to: PleasantonWeekly.com/obituaries

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available

Jan 7

Warrant arrest

■ 6:58 a.m. on Hopyard Road/Gibraltar Drive

Vandalism

■ 8:16 a.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Jan 5

Theft

■ 5:46 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto

■ 5:49 a.m. on the 3600 block of Old Santa Rita Road; auto theft

■ 8:49 a.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 10:48 a.m. on the 500 block of Gerard Court; catalytic converter theft

■ 2:16 p.m. on the 000 block Stoneridge Mall Road

Warrant arrest

■ 7:53 p.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Jan 4

Theft

■ 7:32 a.m. on the 4100 block of Payne Road

■ 10:05 a.m. on the 3000 block of Chardonnay Drive; catalytic converter theft

■ 2:58 p.m. on the 3100 block of Weymouth Court; auto theft

■ 4:14 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; bicycle theft

■ 4:47 p.m. on the 4600 block of Sandalwood Drive; catalytic converter theft

■ 8:11 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting

Vandalism

■ 8:20 a.m. on the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Drug violation

■ 8:24 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 3:49 p.m. on the I-580/El Charro

Domestic battery

■ 9:00 a.m. on Chabot Drive

Burglary

■ 12:38 p.m. on the 4000 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Weapons violation

■ 10:28 p.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Jan 3

Theft

■ 8:15 a.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting

■ 12:52 p.m. on the 3600 block of Andrews Drive; theft from auto

■ 3:38 p.m. on Willow Road/Owens Drive

Trespass/Prowling

■ 8:48 a.m. on the 5900 block of Corte Arboles

Vandalism

■ 9:40 a.m. on the 2700 block of Huff Drive

Burglary

■ 12:42 p.m. on the 8100 block of Arroyo Drive

Jan 2

Theft

■ 6:31 a.m. on the 7500 block of Rosedale Court; auto theft

■ 2:28 p.m. on the 8100 block of Mountain View Drive

Drug violation

■ 2:07 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

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Joan Marie Kavanagh Zehnder

July 27, 1936 – August 20, 2021

On August 20, 2021, we lost an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. Joan (Joanie to all of us) passed away in Boise after a long period of ongoing health problems. She had health issues since she was very young and never complained. She was born in Oakland California on July 27, 1936 to Lauretta and Jack Kavanagh, Sr. She was the eldest of three children, followed by Jack Jr., and Jim. She was an outstanding lady who's first priority was her family and friends and doing the best job she could in those endeavors.

President of the Tri-Valley Branch. She went on to serve on the State and National level. She was the local Arrangements Chair for the conference of IFUW (International Federation of University Women) held at Stanford University. While with AAUW, Joan was instrumental in setting up Tech Trek, a program encouraging middle school girls to pursue their interests in the sciences. She also was involved in Open Heart Kitchen. Joan was an avid reader and belonged to several book clubs throughout the years. She always had a book recommendation on the tip of her tongue and loved discussing them.



Joan attended Sacred Heart in Oakland, All Saints in Hayward, and graduated from San Lorenzo High in San Lorenzo. She graduated from UC Berkeley with a BA in Japanese History and attended Seattle University to get her teaching license. She met her future husband, John while in Seattle, where they settled. When her parents decided to step away from the family business, Kavanagh Liquors, she was offered the opportunity for her and her husband to join brothers Jack Jr. and Jim in continuing the family business. She and her husband moved to California where they raised six children. After her children were raised, she became a more involved and important member of the success of Kavanagh Liquors and its expansion.

Upon her and her husband's retirement, they moved to Lincoln California for a while. Their son Joe convinced them to move to Boise to be closer to many of her family that had settled there.

Joan became very involved in the Pleasanton community. She was President of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce in the late 1990's, active in Pleasanton's Blairgowrie Sister City Committee, Rotary member for many years and served as president in the 1990's. She served for several years on the Social Justice Committee at St. Augustine's Catholic Church which disbursed funds to worthy charities and special projects both nationally and internationally. Joan was a very strong proponent of education and its importance to her children's upbringing. She was active in American Association of University Women (AAUW) where she served as Branch

Boise to be closer to many of her family that had settled there. Joan loved to travel and cruised most of the world. She enjoyed the live theater and visiting museums wherever and whenever she could. She was a devoted friend and annually gathered with her bridesmaids. She also travelled annually with a group of special local friends: Betty, Ginny, Joan L., and Patty.

Joanie was a sweet, fun loving, amazing woman who always was interested in what you were doing, asking thoughtful questions and listening with genuine interest to what you had to say. For those who had the pleasure of spending time with Joan, they always received a warm smile and a feeling of caring. She will be greatly missed.

Preceding her in death were her daughters Joanne Flores and Debra Parker, son-in-law Steve Parker, mother Lauretta Castellotti, and father Jack Kavanagh Sr.

Surviving her are husband John, brothers Jack (Julie) and Jim (Barbara), children John Jr. (Sam), Julie Hill (Bill), Joe (Judy), Jaime (Ellie), Son-in-law Julio Flores, 13 grandchildren, and 2 great children, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held later this year.

PAID OBITUARY

L I V E R M O R E
— arts —
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—THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



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Pleasanton Community Page on Facebook — a bright light of social media

Local resident finds FB group that is positive, helpful, productive

BY NANCY LEWIS

Social media often gets a bad rap as some users disengage from their surroundings or become addicted. But social media also can be tremendously helpful and connect people in positive ways as shown by the Pleasanton Community Group on Facebook.

Pleasanton resident and businesswoman Sandy Schneider, the group's administrator, founded the Pleasanton Community Group/Page a few years ago to provide a forum for residents to interact and share constructive information about local news, events and topics in a positive way. The impetus occurred after she went to another local Facebook page and the first post she saw was an offensive, racist rant.

"It was in that moment that I decided I wanted to create a different kind of social media page/group, where I, and everyone else who chose to join me, would be exposed only to good, constructive and positive posts," Schneider recalled.

The Pleasanton Community Group is now almost 7,000 members strong, and they are encouraged to converse in a "polite, respectful and kind manner."

Schneider reviews and approves all of the posts before they show, and she and moderator Evan Miller remove comments they deem inappropriate. Plus, the page has specific rules that are vigilantly enforced: Nothing political is permitted; and rants, profanity, bullying and the dissemination of false information are prohibited.

Commercial self-promotion and advertisements are also forbidden, with the exception of "Small Business Monday," when local enterprises are permitted to promote their offerings and services. Additionally, members must agree that public sharing is not allowed so what is shared within the group stays within the group.

Asking for money is not allowed either. Members of the group may alert others to upcoming fundraising events but cannot directly request money. This means no Go Fund Me or Facebook fundraising links, which can sometimes be scams that prey upon people's generosity.

With this framework in place, the Pleasanton Community Group's

overall tone is of a safe, warm, welcoming and civilized space. Schneider says her goal for the page is "to always provide help and information in the most direct, concrete and transparent manner," and she encourages members to give more to the page than they take from it — and they absolutely do.

"I find this page helpful in several ways," said member Sharolyn Borris. "One concrete example that comes to mind is the outpouring of organization and donated skills in the early time of Philip Kreycik's disappearance."

Indeed, the page has become a valuable community resource that has conferred concrete benefits throughout Pleasanton and beyond. For example, Schneider spearheaded the collection of backpacks, baby products, children's clothes and work clothes for parents, hygiene products and gift cards to deliver to the victims of the 2018 Carr fire in Shasta and Trinity counties. She used her time and organizational skills to engage community members and businesses, including San Francisco Giants baseball star Brandon Crawford, Pleasanton's U-Haul and California Pizza Kitchen, to provide goods, services, food and support where desperately needed.

Sometimes information shared on the page is minor, like posts about road closures and traffic congestion. Other times, information confers greater, long-lasting benefits.

In 2019, a decorated Army veteran and his wife moving from Las Vegas to Santa Rosa stayed at a hotel in Pleasanton where their truck with all of their belongings was stolen from the parking lot. Members of the Pleasanton Community Group, through posts about specific items needed, outfitted them with essentially everything that was stolen, including clothing, utensils, appliances, dog beds and furniture, although unfortunately his Army medals were irreplaceable.

Right before Halloween, Tara Fairchild posted that her son Kevin, an Amador Valley High senior, was doing a service project — a food drive for Goodness Village in Livermore, a "tiny home" community that provides services, vocational training and nursing support for homeless people. Fairchild invited trick-or-treaters to come to her



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Pleasanton Community Page on Facebook is all about keeping friends and neighbors safe, connected and informed. Jennifer Diamond-Ducey and her family head home with bags of fleece to create blankets for Valley Humane Society. They learned about the fleece on the Pleasanton Community Page, which Diamond-Ducey says is the best place to ask local questions about anything from cell phone service to volunteering to lost and found.

house on Second Street with non-perishable food items for Kevin to deliver to Goodness Village, which resulted in several crates of canned foods being donated.

More recently, Jennifer Diamond-Ducey created a post asking about volunteer opportunities for her offspring. Within an hour, she was connected with organizations that allow children to volunteer with their parents, and a group member offered her two large bags of fleece to be crafted into blankets for the Valley Humane Society. Someone else in the group offered to teach her children how to make the fleece blankets.

"I'm so grateful for the Pleasanton Community page," Diamond-Ducey said. "There is no better place to ask questions that are locally motivated, anything from cell

phone service to volunteering to lost and found. It really adds to that hometown Pleasanton community feel that we fell in love with when we decided to move here."

Diamond-Ducey recently posted a photo of three handmade domino holders, asking where she could buy more.

"Hello! Does anyone happen to know how I can get another one of these domino holders?" she inquired. "We bought three of them when there was that cute store downtown ... and at the time we were a family of three. Well now we are a family of four that likes to play dominoes so we are looking for another."

Lo and behold, member and local artist Gary Winter knew the craftsman, Norman Pacheco, and put Jennifer in touch with him to

make the fourth domino holder.

The page has also been helpful for parents to share information about getting COVID vaccines for young children. Once again, this page is all about local people helping friends and neighbors keep the community as safe, connected and informed as possible.

While social media can sometimes be nothing more than a distracting and even harmful waste of time, when used productively and monitored responsibly, as done by Schneider, its benefits can be enormous. ■

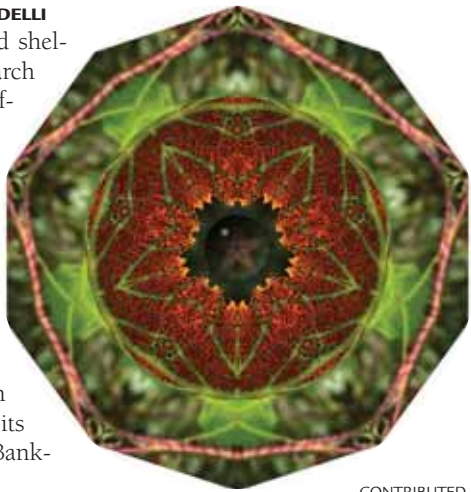
Editor's note: Nancy Lewis is a Pleasanton resident and a regular contributor to the Pleasanton Weekly, preparing the Streetwise column with her husband Jeff. She is an avid member of the Pleasanton Community Group and was eager to share her joy about it with readers.

Livermore Arts presenting 'Pandemia Days'

Artist exhibiting record of 456-day journey during Covid shutdown

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

From the first mandated shelter in place day on March 17, 2020, through the official lifting of restrictions on June 15, 2021, Bay Area artist Elizabeth Addison publicly posted her daily artwork and writing as a new series, "Pandemia Days." Now Livermore Arts is presenting the collection in its online gallery, which it maintains as well as its physical gallery at the Bankhead Theater.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For 456 days, the Berkeley artist posted a unique work of art along with a journal entry on Facebook and Instagram. Most of the works are digital mandalas with a botanical theme, inspired by her daily pandemic walks.

"I took photographs on these walks — stopping to appreciate the micro and the macro — these images were the raw materials for my daily creative journey," Addison explained.

Back in her studio she used apps and other tools to play with the images and collect her thoughts to create what she calls "digital assemblages."

"Below the surface, each of these works documents a day in my life," she said. "They also respond to aspects of our confounding times — musing on issues both big and small, ranging from California's native flora, invasive species and the cosmos to Covid-19, the climate crisis, social upheaval and environmental equity."

Addison noted that she honed and learned new digital skills. Some of the mandalas came together in

Artist Elizabeth Addison calls the "Pandemia Days" mandalas "digital assemblages," created using images she collected on her daily walks.

minutes while others took a few hours of creating multiple versions with up to 15-20 variations. The series has approximately 4,000 mandalas.

Her daily posts drew a large number of followers, which Addison said surprised her.

"Many expressed deep gratitude for the daily posts," she said. "Some said it got them through intense aspects of lockdown and the pandemic."

She ended the series June 15 to work on other projects with the caveat that the pandemic was not over, only this phase.

Addison's works are included in numerous private and public collections. Most of the artwork in "Pandemia Days" is available for sale in four sizes of prints on museum quality 100% rag paper. See the exhibit at livermorearts.org/online-gallery. ■

Chorale holding auditions

Singers need experience, love of exciting music

Valley Concert Chorale is looking for new members for its chorus, which has been in existence for more than 50 years. Singers must have experience and be able to sight read, as well as enjoy singing exciting and challenging music.

Auditions will be held Mondays, Jan. 17 and Jan. 24, by appointment only, at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St. in Livermore, where the chorale holds its practices.

The 10-minute audition will include vocalizing (to determine range), reading from one page of

a motet, and a clapping exercise. Singers must commit to the season with Monday evening rehearsals.

Valley Concert Chorale performs three concert sets a season with music ranging from classical to contemporary and folk to jazz. The next performance is March 12-13, "Celebrate the Night: Songs of Dreams, the Moon and the Stars."

More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling the general information line at 866-4003. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Museum hosts annual art showcase

Pleasanton Art League members exhibit their talents



Museum on Main and the Pleasanton Art League opened their 14th annual showcase this week of local artistic talents with "Imagination Expressed 2022."

The exhibit features paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, jewelry and other works by Pleasanton Art League members. Many of the works displayed will be available for purchase.

In support of the exhibit, PAL members will appear at Museum on Main to demonstrate their methods and talk with the public about their work. In previous shows, artists appearing have included George and Linda Garbarino, Meghana Mitragotri, Charlotte Severin and Eugenia Zobel.

For the dates, times and names of this year's demos, visit www.museumonmain.org. The exhibit will run through March 26.

The museum is located at 603 Main St.; hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. Call 462-2766. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Take Me to the World

An evening with Tonight Show Soloist Eve Marie Shahoian



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

An evening with Eve Marie Shahoian

Bay Area native, former Tonight Show soloist Eve Marie Shahoian makes her West Coast debut of "Take Me to The World" at Firehouse Arts Center at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29. Known for her stunning soprano and impressive songwriting skills, Eve Marie also has a knack for poignant interpretations and engaging with the lyric and melody. For this concert, she will perform songs from the musical theater genre, jazz standards, and signature and newly released original music. Tickets are priced from \$20-\$30; visit www.firehousearts.org.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Broadway comes to the Bankhead

Livermore Arts has two New York musical acts coming to the Bankhead Theater. Jeremy Stolle, who has been with "The Phantom of the Opera" for more than a decade, will appear at 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 21, with his show "No More Talk of Darkness," an evening of Broadway songs and tales of making a life on the stage. Tickets are \$20-\$68. Then at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 26, the Queen's Cartoonists will bring their infectious mix of classic and contemporary cartoons, live music and comedy. Tickets are \$20-\$78. Buy tickets at livermorearts.org, by calling 373-6800, or at the box office, 2400 First St., Livermore.



PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Everyone suffers with the COVID setback

Also: Former Amador Valley Don needs help

Just when it seemed like we were approaching getting back to normal when it comes to COVID, we take a big step backwards.

The East Bay Athletic League basketball season started the week of Jan. 5, but over half the scheduled games were not played.

In fact, not one EBAL girls' game was played during the week and half the boys' games were sent to the shelf.

The Granada and Dublin boys both played last week, but it had been almost three weeks since they played a game. The Granada and Foothill girls also have been hit hard.

The Livermore high schools went back to school Jan. 3 and the athletic teams took some hits.

At times the Granada girls' soccer team had only 12 girls available to train.

With all the other schools in the EBAL returning the week of Jan. 10, it will be interesting to see if the numbers increase and more games are lost.

Wrestling was on hold for a while now, with teams returning to matches

this week, and Invitations on Jan. 15.

Some areas — the Los Angeles Unified School District — have sent all sports to the shelf for the week of Jan. 10-14 in hopes of stopping the spread.

Having worked recently with Harvest Park Middle School intramural athletics, I saw first-hand how excited kids were to be participating in sports, so to see this hit again is devastating.

It's not just the student athletes suffering, but the entire student body as you can see the level of excitement when the kids get to represent their schools.

I saw it during the fall sports with football and was really excited for the winter sports with the rocking gyms during EBAL basketball games.

Here is hoping we make great strides in the weeks to come, and we get all our teams playing again!

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons jumped all over Livermore from the beginning on the way to a 69-45 win in their first EBAL game.

The key to the win was the aggressive full-court press the Dons used which in turn created a lot of transition opportunities.

Amador worked out to a 35-15 lead at the half with nine different players scoring.

Colton Cash had 12 points to lead Amador, with Tyler Cheng adding 11. Foster Keast had nine and Abe Tabatabaian added eight for the Dons.

Former Amador soccer player needs help

Jason Maratsos is a graduate of Amador Valley where he played soccer and he was also a fixture in the Pleasanton soccer community before moving his family to Marietta, Georgia.

After playing for Amador, Maratsos went on to San Diego State.

On Nov. 21 Maratsos was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital after being diagnosed with Guillain Barre Syndrome.

Guillain Barre Syndrome is a rare condition that causes a person's immune system to attack their



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Amador Valley graduate and former soccer player Jason Maratsos (right) has been diagnosed with Guillain Barre Syndrome. A GoFundMe has been established to help the family financially.

peripheral nerves, resulting in partial loss of sensation, loss of movement, and even changes in cognitive ability and personality.

He has been on and off a ventilator and, though the prognosis is good, it will be a lengthy recovery.

Jason and his wife Jill have a pair of boys. Jill has been forced to change jobs to spend time at Jason's side while still supporting the family on one income.

If you would like to support the family, there has been a GoFundMe account set up under the name "The Maratsos Family Medical Support." Their goal is \$25,000 and as of Jan. 10, \$10,925 has been raised. ■

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.

Renaissance Man: Amador Valley senior is an athlete, musician, scholar

It is refreshing to see high school student-athletes that do things for the right reason and can keep life in the proper perspective.

It is refreshing to talk with a student-athlete like Amador Valley's Ethan Daley.

Daley is a senior on the Amador Valley boys' basketball team, but he is so much more than your typical high school athlete.

In addition to being a good basketball player for the Dons, Daley is an exemplary student, and dabbles in music, even recently performing in Pleasanton with his two older brothers.

Basically, he is a Tri-Valley high school version of a Renaissance Man.

"I've had some people call me that, but I don't know if I would say that," said Daley with a laugh.

Let the evidence speak for itself.

Basketball is a sport Daley has been playing since the family moved to Pleasanton from Boston when he was in fourth grade.

At 6-foot-1, Daley is hardly big for a high school varsity basketball player, yet he plays every position for the Dons and has led the team in rebounding in some games.

"I play whatever the coach needs me to play," said Daley. "I'm not the biggest scorer but focus on all the other intangibles."

It was like pulling teeth to get Daley to name someone he patterns his game after.

"I don't want to describe myself — I don't want to sound egotistical," said Daley. "But I guess I am like a Draymond Green-type player."

Academically, Daley is rocking a 4.3 GPA and accomplishing his excellence without his parents' shoving academics down his throat.

In a time where we see kids face issues regularly from parental pressure, Daley is a shining beacon when it comes to what is possible with the proper support from home.

"I've had an interest in school since I was young," said Daley. "I was in Kumon (an educational network) when I was young, and it just was interesting. My parents are not overbearing — they make it not about grades but understanding the material."

Daley brings an impressive academic resume, one that is even more eye-popping considering the time he puts in to play basketball

year-round.

"The balance comes with getting (school) work done during the day," explained Daley. "It has never really been that much of a problem. I usually sacrifice (free) time during the school day to do my school work."

Are there any days when he strays? "Sure, there are times I get off task," said Daley with a laugh. "It is just a discipline instilled by my parents. Some days I will get home from practice, shower, eat, and then I can study. But there has to be some time for video games."

Then there is the musical ability. Daley was first exposed to music in middle school, and in his freshman year he played the French horn. It's turned out to be something he enjoys with his two older brothers.

"I have to hand it to my brothers," said Daley of brothers Connor, 27, and Joseph, 23. "They have loved music forever."

For Connor, who lives in Boston, music is currently a side-profession. He works full time while pursuing a musical career. He has a song, "Fade Away," on Spotify under the name C3D and in the last month was in town when he was offered a gig at

Pairings in downtown Pleasanton.

It was a family performance as Connor was the singer with Joseph and Ethan playing keyboards.

"We played for three hours," explained Daley. "We did cover songs, pop, rock and some indie. It was the first time we had done that, and we all enjoyed it. We would love to do another. I think (Pairings) has invited us again."

It was yet another thing in Daley's life that required discipline.

"Oh, it was a time commitment," said Daley. "(Connor) got out here two weeks before and there was a lot of practice."

So, what's more pressure — standing on the free throw line with the game on the line or taking the stage for a musical performance?

"For me, it's more nerves in basketball," said Daley. "It's a good thing I am not the singer. I am in the back playing keyboards — all I need to do is make sure I get the first note right. Having a chance to win a basketball game is something I dream about."

The balance Daley has shown in all his activities makes it not surprising when it comes to his plan on making a college decision.

"I've got all the college apps filled out and submitted," explained Daley. "When I get the decisions coming in, I will take it one step at a time. I'll figure out which colleges I have been accepted to, then sit down and make a list of pros and cons for each before making a decision."

Will basketball factor in?

"I'm honestly not a D-I player," said Daley, once again with a chuckle. "But I would love the chance to walk-on at a D-II or D-III school. If not, I will play intramurals. Basketball is always something that I just want to play. Basketball is more than just a game — it's a place where you can let go of everything in your life."

Amazing perspective from a high school senior as there are plenty of high school athletes and their parents that have delusions of grandeur.

"At the end of the day, I am not going to be the next Draymond Green," said Daley, also laughing. "I just love playing basketball." ■

Editor's note: This story originally appeared in the Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a free e-newsletter that covers Tri-Valley high school sports. Subscribe to the newsletter at PleasantonWeekly.com/express/sports.

Calendar

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY • POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Theater

EUGENE O'NEILL'S "WELDED"

Eric Hayes, artistic director for the Eugene O'Neill foundation, brings "Welded" to the stage, Jan. 14-17. Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Visit <http://www.eugeneoneill.org/event>.

Music

YOUTH CHOIR REGISTRATION

Register your child to sing with the East Bay Musical Society this Spring. The youth choir is open to anyone 14 years of age or younger. Rehearsals will be held Thursdays from February 10 - May 12 from 5:45-6:30pm. Visit eastbaymusicals.org/sing-with-us. St. Bart's, 678 Enos Way, Livermore.

AUDITIONS FOR VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE

The Valley Concert Chorale has returned to in-person rehearsals and is seeking new singers. Auditions are available by appointment on January 17 and 24. Call (925) 866-4003 or text (925) 216-7084. Full vaccination and mask required. First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore.

DRAG NIGHT IN DUBLIN Join the fun for a spectacular outdoor Drag Show under the winter patio at Casa Orozco in Dublin. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Jan. 19. Visit ebbrock.ticketleap.com/dragnight7/ details. 7995 Amador Valley Blvd.

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 with show-stopping Broadway songs. Bankhead Theater, tickets \$20-\$68. 8 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE QUEEN'S CARTOONISTS AT THE BANKHEAD

The Queen's Cartoonists offer a show with world-class professional musicians playing music from classic cartoons and contemporary animation, synchronizing their performances and leading audiences through a world of virtuosic musicianship, multi-instrumental mayhem and hilarious comedy. 7:30, Jan 26. Visit livermorearts.org.

Talks

ED KINNEY SPEAKER SERIES

An Afternoon or Evening with Galileo Galilei. Galileo, one of the founders of modern science, is known for finding that earth was part of a sun centered planetary system. 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., Jan. 18. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org

AN OVERVIEW OF LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE WEBINAR

Hope Hospice's Family Caregiver Education Series is sponsoring a presentation from the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program and Legal Assistance for Seniors of Alameda County. 10-11 a.m., Jan. 20. Visit hopehospice.com.

THEN & NOW: LIVERMORE STORIES

Livermore Public Library and the Livermore Heritage Guild present a free local history lecture series. Will Bolton presents a Zoom

program entitled "The Past and Present of the Duarte Highway Garage", 7 p.m., Jan. 26. Visit livermorelibrary.net.

RAE DOROUGH SPEAKER SERIES PRESENTS PETER SAGAL

Peter Sagal has filled theaters across the country with "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!" since he joined the cast and became host in 1998. Peter speaks about the intersections of politics, civics, humor and entertainment and how they all draw from each other to create the American experience. 8 p.m., Jan. 28. Bankhead Theater. Visit livermorearts.org.

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.

PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE/ MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT

Pleasanton's Museum on Main and the Pleasanton Art League open their fourteenth annual showcase of the Valley's artistic talents with "Imagination Expressed 2022", featuring paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, jewelry, and other works by members of the Pleasanton Art League. Through March 26. Visit museumonmain.org.

WATERCOLOR EXHIBIT 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.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Vixen

Vixen is a vivacious little pup who adores various activities; playing and snuggling are equally vital. Her personality is vibrant yet calming, a vividly beautiful juxtaposition. She's a viable candidate to add value to your family! Learn more about Vixen and other dogs and cats at valleyhumane.org. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

Support

NAMI TRI-VALLEY PARENT RESOURCE AND SUPPORT GROUP

NAMI Tri-Valley offers a once monthly Parent Resource and Support Group via Zoom that is free with no registration required. This is a peer/parent facilitated informal open-agenda format group for parents, grandparents, adoptive and foster parents raising children up to age 17. 7-8:30, Jan. 18. Call (925) 980-5331 or e-mail: marsha@nami-trivalley.org.

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.

OPEN HEART KITCHEN

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

Mall Rd., behind the Workday building.

INTERFAITH SHARING FOOD PANTRY

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

Outdoor Recreation

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT TRAILS CHALLENGE

Participate in this free, self-guided hiking and bicycling program to explore the East Bay regional parks and to keep fit outdoors. The 2022 Guidebook includes 20 detailed trail descriptions available for all levels of fitness. Visit ebparks.org/trails-challenge.

NEW YEAR BIRD WALK

Join Ranger Eric on a slow-paced walk to look and listen for the winter avian

See CALENDAR on Page 20



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ed Kinney Lecture Series

The Museum on Main's 2022 Ed Kinney Lecture Series presents "An Evening With ..." different characters throughout history. The first event, An Afternoon or Evening with Galileo Galilei, is scheduled for 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Jan. 18 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., with virtual performances on BigMarker Webinar Platform beginning Jan. 25. Tickets are \$25 general admission; \$20 seniors and students; and \$15 members. Virtual admission is \$20 general admission; \$15 seniors and students; and \$10 members. Purchase tickets and get updates on the performances at www.museumonmain.org.

Employment

Build and Release Engineer

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Build and Release Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. Subj. to bckgrnd check. E.O.E. Email resume to TA.Perm.Project@albertsons.com. Attn: M. Ferreira

Senior Software Engineer (Full Stack Engineer)

Safeway Inc. is hiring Senior Software Engineer (Full Stack Engineer) in Pleasanton, CA. Subj. to bckgrnd check. Email resume to kenneth.reed@albertsons.com, Attn: K. Reed



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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Shape Up
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585406
The following person doing business as: Shape Up, 5757 Sonoma Drive, Suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Shapeuppleasanton LLC, 5637 San Carlos Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Shapeuppleasanton LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein October 1, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Shapeuppleasanton LLC, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 30, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, January 14, 21, 28, February 4, 2022.)

997 All Other Legals

SUMMONS Case No. 21CV00806 -----
-- 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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E-mail: gchannell@pleasantonweekly.com

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

residents of Sycamore Grove. RSVP at 925-960-2400 or email: ewhiteside@larpd.org. 9 a.m., Jan. 15.

Veterans

VETERANS MOBILE MEDICAL TEAM
The VA Palo Alto Medical team will provide care or referral from medical staff including flu shots. Bring a proof of service document. Drop-in, no appointment needed. 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., Jan. 25. Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

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 calexpstatefair.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.

'Jake's Women' postponed

Play now scheduled for early February

Due to rising COVID cases, Encore Players has postponed performance dates of "Jake's Women," the Neil Simon play originally set for Jan. 14-16 at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore.

The rescheduled times and dates are 7:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 4; and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5.

The performance will be held in the large East End Room of the Bothwell Arts Center, allowing for ample distancing of

seats. Proof of vaccination and identification will be required, and masks must be worn during the performance.

The cast and crew are fully vaccinated and will be masked except when they are on stage.

The story is a poignant comedy about a writer struggling to accept his past so that he can move into the present. Tickets are \$20 each, available at livermorearts.org. ■

—Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Government

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL The Pleasanton City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of the month, currently held virtually. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Jan 18. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE PLANNING COMMISSION The next Livermore Planning Commission meeting is 7 p.m., Jan. 18. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

VERY REAL LOCAL NEWS

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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:

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- Profiles of interesting coaches and athletes
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- Entertaining features
- Local sports trends

TRI-VALLEY PREPS PLAYBOOK

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SCAN AND SIGN UP FOR TRI-VALLEY PLAYBOOK

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Nov. 22-24 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol and Dec. 6-10 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 3700 Bingham Street** Shepard Trust to Charles 1997 Trust for \$1,575,000
- 5903 Bryce Canyon Court** Miller Family Trust to Chabad Of The Tri Valley for \$1,850,000
- 6294 Camino Del Lago** N. & A. Faville to L. & H. Kharbanda for \$2,150,000
- 1426 Elliott Circle** Casha Trust to P. Hule for \$1,060,000
- 1878 Foxswallow Circle** Allison Family Trust to R. & B. Narayanasamy for \$1,675,000
- 5744 Hanifen Way** O. & D. Melaugh to A. & K. Abrams for \$3,225,000
- 8096 Horizons Court** Singh Living Trust to S. & S. Revashetti for \$5,100,000
- 4064 Jensen Street** T. & M. Siegling to Hule Family Trust for \$1,085,000
- 969 Kottinger Drive** Point Green Home Solutions LLC to I. & R. Vijayan for \$1,650,000
- 1562 Lexington Lane** R. Sultanally to M. & K. Patel for \$1,850,000
- 5253 Meadowwood Court** Spangler Living Trust to Y. & A. Lahiri for \$1,920,000
- 3841 Vineyard Avenue #C** D. Green to W. Chan for \$510,000
- 2500 Vineyard Avenue** Hanna Living Trust to Naguib Family Trust for \$1,033,500
- 665 Windmill Lane** Acker Family Trust to K. & K. Ng for \$2,323,000

Livermore

- 1426 Aster Lane** Leduc Family Trust to S. & I. Melvin for \$835,000

- 1226 Baffin Way** K. Charron to M. & N. Sinha for \$1,340,000
- 1014 Baltusrol Road** H. Reiss to D. & A. Enugu for \$810,000
- 502 Bell Avenue** Debono Trust to A. Mitsunari for \$1,350,000
- 780 Bellflower Street** S. Kanaujia to R. Pena for \$792,500
- 975 Bluebell Drive** M. Salamanca to L. & D. Elmatari for \$900,000
- 1594 Calle Del Rey** R. & J. Valdes to K. & S. Kang for \$950,000
- 2775 Chablis Way** H. Beville to Z. Tun for \$1,920,000
- 1137 Crystal Circle** M. Midence to Karen Kam Living Trust for \$1,358,000
- 714 Geraldine Street** J. & R. Sutton to D. & C. Tang for \$1,140,000
- 5813 Heidi Way** C. & G. Faubion to J. & N. Clifton for \$1,530,000
- 3806 Hillside Avenue** Trummer Trust to J. & L. Tofanelli for \$1,615,000
- 1680 Hollyhock Street** A. & S. Mills to Calloni Living Trust for \$1,300,000
- 424 Hummingbird Lane** D. Johnson to S. & A. Ghosh for \$1,295,000
- 995 Jessica Drive** Pemper Trust to Liu Family Trust for \$1,200,000
- 928 Jessica Drive** Jones Living Trust to C. & L. Haas for \$1,340,000
- 1322 Pine Street** Cpf Paseo Associates LLC to Paseo Kaiser Office Owner LLC for \$85,000,000
- 2186 Ponderosa Drive** M. & B. Stones to H. & W. Li for \$930,000
- 3977 Portola Common #4** S. & J. Hillis to 1999 Faith Family Trust for \$780,000
- 3997 Portola Common #1** J. & N. Clifton to P. & R. Srinivasa for \$850,000

- 165 Ruby Court** C. & M. Riehl to A. & S. Rawas for \$1,135,000
- 144 Teasel Common** A. Mustakim to S. & R. Krishnan for \$1,000,000
- 840 Ventura Avenue** C. Hornisch to L. & F. Zhou for \$952,000

Dublin

- 5882 Cadence Avenue** V. Patel to S. & A. Marri for \$1,210,000
- 7310 Croy Lane #16** S. Banthanavasi to Y. & C. Lee for \$920,000
- 7063 Dublin Meadows Street #G** J. Cutajar to T. Oguns for \$710,000
- 6098 Kingsmill Terrace** W. & N. Dadgar to M. & H. Kasem for \$2,500,000

- 5810 Midnight Place #E** Cal Atlantic Group Inc to V. & H. Chauhan for \$1,229,000
- 5223 Salerno Drive** S. Pandey to K. & S. Dhir for \$1,395,000
- 7066 Stags Leap Lane** Chandra Trust to A. & S. Kukkillaya for \$1,116,000
- 7784 Tuscany Drive #28** H. Ng to X. & Q. Liang for \$788,500

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 (Nov. 22-24)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$510,000
Highest sale reported: \$5,100,000
Average sales reported: \$1,762,500

Livermore (Nov. 22-24)

Total sales reported: 23
Lowest sale reported: \$780,000
Highest sale reported: \$85,000
Average sales reported: \$1,140,000

Dublin (Nov. 22-24)

Total sales reported: 10
Lowest sale reported: \$710,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,500,000
Average sales reported: \$1,158,000

Sunol (Nov. 22-24)

Total sales reported: 1
Lowest sale reported: \$1,100,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,100,000
Average sales reported: \$1,100,000

San Ramon (Dec. 6-10)

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$334,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,658,000
Average sales reported: \$1,150,000

Source: California REsource

8 NEW LUXURY SEMI-CUSTOM HOMES

NESTLED IN PLEASANTON HILLS ON VIEW LOTS

Information Meeting + Sneak Peek Property Viewings

Event Date: Saturday, January 15 - 10am - 3pm

Location: Coldwell Banker Realty - Pleasanton
 450 Main Street, Suite 207

Registration Required: Use QR Code and Select Meeting Time
On-Site Viewing of Property Immediately Following



The Estates at Sun Meadowlark - 3459 Old Foothill Road

First Release Available January 15, 2022

- 8 Exquisite Homes on a Cul-de-sac
- Large 30,000+ sq. ft. Lots
- Home Sizes 4,000+ sq. ft.
- One and Two Story Designs
- Private Setting with Expansive Views
- Starting Price Mid \$3 Million

CONTACT COLDWELL BANKER
 SALES TEAM FOR INFORMATION:



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 510-272-7777
 DRE: 02049392

Zhi Yu
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 DRE: 02081646

Terri Maxoutopoulos
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 DRE: 01788629





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VENEMA HOMES

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New Year, Same Resolutions.

Our Mission Statement

To Bring Excellence to the Experience of Buying and Selling a Home

Our Core Values

- Lead with a Heart of Giving and Receiving
- Invest in Building Authentic Relationships
- Serve with a Positive Attitude and Enthusiasm
- Use Our Experience and Systems to Ensure Transactional Excellence
- Every Day is Fun



Contact us today!



482 Sangro Court
\$2,295,000

Ruby Hill, Pleasanton

- 4 Beds, 3 Baths
- 2,806 sqft
- 18,258 sqft lot
- Owned Solar
- Community Pool, Tennis, & Park

Open House

Saturday 12:30-4:30pm & Sunday 12:30-4:30pm



387 Lone Oak Drive

Oak Park, Pleasanton

3 Beds | 2 Baths | 1,653 sqft



2756 Curry Street

Stone Ridge Square, Pleasanton

3 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 1,820 sqft



Get an instant FREE Home Valuation!



VenemaHomes.com | Liz@VenemaHomes.com | 925.413.6544 | 660 Main Street, Pleasanton | DRE# 01922957

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WHAT WE ACHIEVED
IN 2021

\$140M

TOTAL TRANSACTION VOLUME

86

CLIENTS HELPED

\$4.5M

HIGHEST SALES PRICE

8

AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET



1803 Sinclair Drive, Pleasanton
\$1,049,000
2 BD | 2 BA | 1,068 sq ft | 4,900 sq ft lot



1612 David Street, Danville
Price available upon request
4 BD | 3 BA | 1,626 sq ft | 8,720 sq ft lot

BUYER NEEDS

- Cash Buyer up to \$4M – Seeks 5+bd/4ba 4,000+ sq ft in Pleasanton, ideally one story on half acre lot or larger
- Pleasanton Family up to \$3.5M – Seeks 5+bd, 3,300+ sqft in Pleasanton neighborhoods of Bridle Creek, Kottinger Ranch and Pheasant Ridge

Tim McGuire | DRE 01349446

925.462.7653 (SOLD) | www.timmcguireteam.com

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