

# Pleasanton Weekly

Spirited shows at  
the Bankhead

Page 14

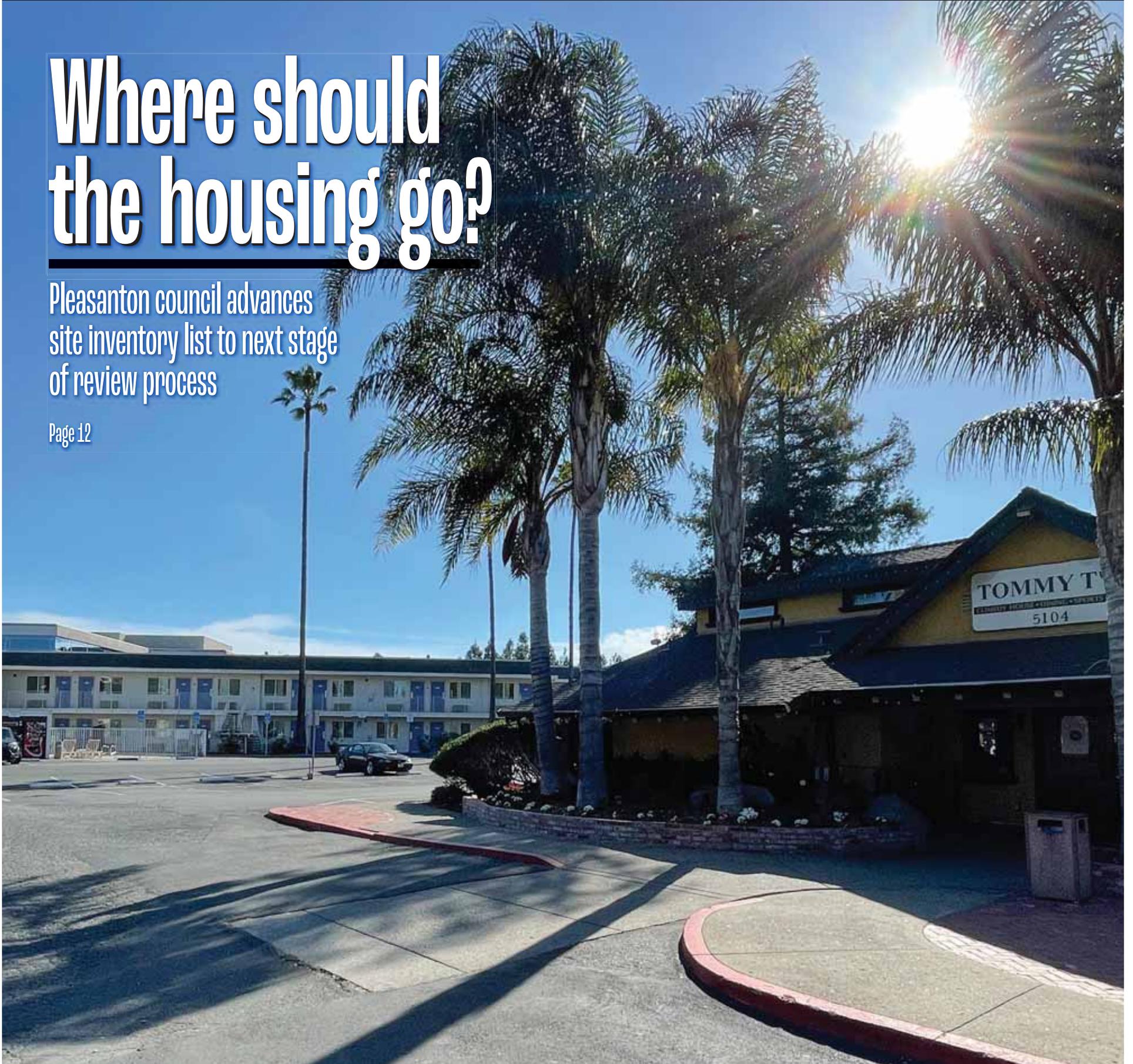
VOL. XXIII, NUMBER 4 • FEBRUARY 18, 2022

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Where should the housing go?

Pleasanton council advances  
site inventory list to next stage  
of review process

Page 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Weekend on Main returning to downtown, monthly
- 5 | **NEWS** Dublin mourns loss of Deputy Aubrey Phillips
- 17 | **OPINION** Flyer misinformation reinforces need to verify



# Food for Heart

*Celebrate Heart Month with small changes at mealtime that make a big impact on your heart health.*

According to the American Heart Association, nearly half of American adults have some type of cardiovascular disease. However, with simple, smart food choices and guidance from the leading doctors and dietitians at Stanford Medicine, working towards a healthier heart can be as easy as sitting down for a delicious meal.



Learn how to keep your heart healthy at  
[stanfordhealthcare.org/foodforheart](https://stanfordhealthcare.org/foodforheart)

# WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

## Taste Tri-Valley is here

The Tri-Valley is a food-lovers paradise, and we want the world to know!”

That’s how Robin Fahr, vice president of marketing for Visit Tri-Valley, framed the conversation about this year’s Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week, which begins today and actually runs for 10 days through next Sunday (Feb. 27).

The program sees more than 30 registered restaurants and wineries offering exclusive deals, unique menus and special foodie events to spotlight the best of the best, culinary-wise, in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Danville.

For Visit Tri-Valley, the local tourism and marketing district funded primarily by a special assessment applied to hotel stays in the region, among other sources, the 2022 Restaurant Week aims to take the next step in building upon the success of the inaugural event in February 2021 — thriving, as opposed to just surviving, is how I’d put it.

“Last year the objective of Taste Tri-Valley was to engage locals to help keep our restaurants going while we were in the throes of the pandemic,” Fahr told me. “This year we’re focused on both locals and diners from around the greater Bay Area, as the Tri-Valley is being recognized as a culinary destination, thanks to our diverse ethnic cuisines, sustainability programs, new Michelin-designated restaurants, and menus receiving national acclaim.”

Plus, this year’s event comes at a time when the COVID-19 regulations are again easing and the weather seems anything but typical for February in the Bay Area.

Fahr noted that this year’s Taste Tri-Valley will offer both outdoor and indoor dining with no advanced check-in required — a natural evolution, especially for those aching for a fuller return to pre-pandemic social conditions.

I don’t know how unique my experience has been. I have not dined inside a restaurant, and only a handful of times outdoors, since March 2020, but I have ordered take-out food more often during the past two years than any other stretch in my life.

That’s how I’ve chosen to balance my desire to support the restaurants I like, and their workers, with my desire to keep myself, my family and others safe from preventable spread of the virus.

I try to do my part with the to-go orders: grab an appetizer and/or dessert, tack on that extra entree for leftovers tomorrow, pick up a drink if in the mood, and always (always)

tip over 20% and with cash when possible.

I hope it’s helped, though admittedly I don’t know their books.

It’s tough to watch what has been going on around us in certain industries during the COVID-19 pandemic, and local restaurants are among those to have been particularly hard hit.

Pleasanton is no different. As just one example, Oak Hills Shopping Center, across the street from the Weekly office, alone has seen three eateries close within the past two years.

On the positive side, at least one of those vacancies in the past several months has already been occupied by a new restaurant concept. The culinary industry is nothing if not resilient.

There are so many good things happening when it comes to food and drink in our region, and that’s what Taste Tri-Valley is all about: shining a spotlight while encouraging much-needed support.

I suggest you visit the Visit Tri-Valley website yourself (visittrivalley.com) to see the full list of participating restaurants and special events on the docket among Danville, Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore.

But aren’t there five communities in the Tri-Valley? As a reminder, San Ramon continues to miss out on regional collaborative events like this Restaurant Week after pulling out of Visit Tri-Valley in 2015 in favor of going it alone with its own tourism district.

Like many of you, it has stood out to us at the Weekly how little (if anything) we’ve actually heard or seen from that organization, Discover San Ramon.

In fact, we were so curious to investigate that we had just begun receiving a trove of documents from our public records request when headlines started spreading about this new and dangerous virus making its way around the world and within the U.S.

Our Discover San Ramon probe fell by the wayside as we had to shift news priorities. Not an excuse; just acknowledgement of an obvious overriding factor.

I’m starting to think now could be the time to get out a fresh records request, and dig back into those pages and pages and pages of documents we previously obtained.

Maybe I’ll do it over a coffee or lunch. Where should I order from?... ■

*Editor’s note: Jeremy Walsh has been the editor of the Pleasanton Weekly since February 2017. His “What a Week” column runs on the first and third Fridays of the month.*

### About the Cover

Tommy T’s Comedy Club and the neighboring Motel 6, collectively called the “Owens Drive Sites” on the inventory list, are among the properties being analyzed for potential future residential units in the upcoming Housing Element update. Photo by Jeremy Walsh. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXIII, Number 4

## NEW LISTING!



**922 CRELLIN ROAD**

**4 Bedrooms - 3 Bathrooms - 2,166 Square Feet**

Excellent location close to Vintage Hills park and Vintage Hills Elementary school.

7-TIME WINNER AS PLEASANTON’S BEST REALTOR & HALL OF FAME MEMBER



**Gina Piper**

925.200.0202 • DRE #01201349  
gina@elationre.com

[ElationRE.com](http://ElationRE.com)



## JOIN US SUNDAY, APRIL 24

EARLY BIRD  
registration  
ends  
MARCH 15



[ppierun.com](http://ppierun.com)

## Are there any aromas (good smells) that you find particularly comforting?



**Joni Gruver**  
*Office manager*

I absolutely love the smell of lavender. It takes me back to drinking tea with my grandma up in Little River, Calif. We used to sit out on her patio together and watch the sunset and drink lavender tea. That beautiful smell always takes me right back to that place.



**Anna Shoop**  
*Financial services video producer*

I generally don't like fragrances, especially artificial ones. But I do love earthy smells, like grass. But never ever anything sweet, like flowers.



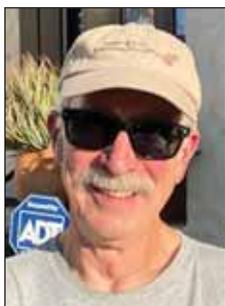
**Adam Shoop**  
*Real estate broker*

Like my mom, I too, am not a big fan of aromas. However, as a real estate broker, I really do appreciate the smells of fresh paint and new carpet.



**Jason Crabb**  
*College student*

I find a lot of comfort in anything that smells like the fall and the holiday season. Things like scented candles that conjure up aromas like cinnamon and ginger. So perfect.



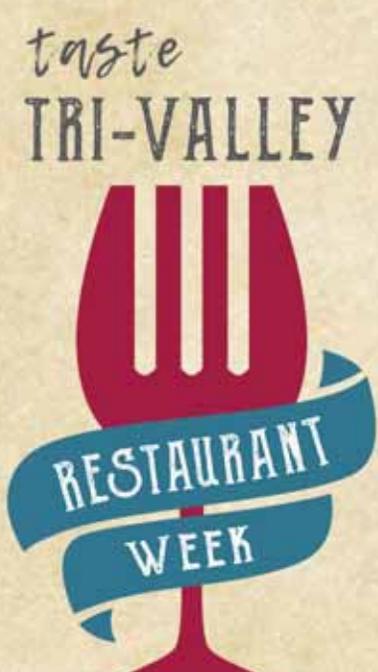
**Richard Mathewson**  
*Retired*

I love the smell of night-blooming jasmine because it reminds me of when I had a paper route, so many years ago during my youth. I would get a whiff of the jasmine very early in the morning as I rode my bicycle through the neighborhoods delivering the newspaper to people's front porches.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com/subscribe](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/subscribe) to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2022 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



*taste*  
**TRI-VALLEY**  
**RESTAURANT WEEK**  
FEBRUARY 18-27, 2022

## Support Your Favorite Restaurants

**Celebrate Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week over the span of 10 delicious days with special dishes, deals, and events at participating restaurants and wineries throughout the Tri-Valley.**



Scan the QR code to learn more or go to [VisitTriValley.com/RestaurantWeek](http://VisitTriValley.com/RestaurantWeek)



Presenting Sponsor:



Seeing beyond

Sponsors:













Benefitting:



## DIGEST

### Districting debate

The Pleasanton City Council is set to convene for a special meeting next Thursday (Feb. 24) at 7 p.m. to discuss district elections coming to Pleasanton.

Making the change after being compelled by the threat of a lawsuit alleging discrimination in the city's current at-large election process, the council is reviewing maps for how to divide the four City Council seats into representative quadrants. The mayoral position will remain at-large citywide.

The current council is closing in on making two key decisions that will effect city elections for years to come: which district map to select for final approval, and which district election seats to assign to the 2022 election year and which to 2024.

To view the maps under consideration or to learn more about Thursday's meeting, visit [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov).

### Nonprofit grants

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance has launched its first quarterly grant cycle for its 2022 Tri-Valley Nonprofit Fund Grant Program, with applications open until next Tuesday (Feb. 22).

Nonprofits serving the communities of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, Danville and Sunol that are registered as 501(c)3 organizations or have a fiscal sponsor are eligible to apply for grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 in unrestricted funds that can be used for operational purposes as well as for program and service delivery, TVNPA officials said.

On the fundraising side, the first \$25,000 in donations to TVNPA for this program will be matched 150% thanks to partners Community Health and Education Foundation, and Marti and John Sutton. Go to [www.tvnpa.org/tvnf](http://www.tvnpa.org/tvnf).

### Nature around us

The East Bay Regional Park District is offering two free, self-guided winter scavenger hunts in the greater Tri-Valley during this Presidents' Day weekend, as part of its ongoing programming to introduce residents to the natural resources around them.

Both events will occur from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday (Feb. 19): one at Sunol Regional Wilderness near Sunol and the other at Del Valle Regional Park south of Livermore. They are drop-in programs, with no registration necessary.

"Stop by the visitor center at either park during those hours, pick up an activity sheet and set forth on your personal adventure in the park," officials said. Parking fees will be in effect at both sites. Call 510-544-3249 to learn more. ■

## Pleasanton council approves blueprint for Weekend on Main street closures

Residents will be able to enjoy outdoor dining, shopping monthly May to December

By JULIA BAUM

Outdoor dining and shopping downtown are poised for a big comeback this year, after the Pleasanton City Council on Tuesday approved framework along with a \$100,000 sponsorship for Weekend on Main street closures.

The 2022 Weekend on Main program is set to return in May as part of the annual Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) events programming, following a 4-1 vote at the council meeting, with Councilmember Julie Testa dissenting. The downtown street closures will extend from

the Main Street bridge to south of Bernal Avenue every first weekend of the month, starting Friday at 4 p.m. and ending Sunday at 9 p.m.

Started when the pandemic first struck, Weekend on Main gave downtown restaurants and merchants room to expand outside operations during 2020 while indoor dining and shopping was restricted by county and state officials. The weekly street closures also took place last year from the end of April through Labor Day weekend.

After being "well-received by the community" in both years, city staff and the PDA began collaborating on

a Weekend on Main program last summer, with the goal of balancing the interests of both downtown merchants and restaurants.

During the public hearing on Tuesday, PDA Board President Bryan Bowers said "there's competing stakeholders that have different opinions" about what Weekend on Main should look like going forward.

"We want to fill up the blank space during the day where the street closure is not being used, and really try and get the retailers engaged and able to benefit from the closure and the amount of people

that are downtown," Bowers said.

Given the choice of holding Weekend on Main either through the end of October or December, the council opted to run the program longer. Bowers said "it just kind of made sense to go ahead and take advantage" of the street being closed for the annual holiday parade.

"December is already kind of a soft close because of the parade," Bowers said. "If we were going to close December, then we felt like we needed to close November also so that we were consistent with that

See **WEEKEND** on Page 8

## Dublin mourning Deputy Phillips

Officer dies after suffering medical emergency on duty

By JEREMY WALSH

Alameda County Sheriff's Deputy Aubrey Phillips, a Dublin resident who had been assigned to her city's beat for the past seven months, died after suffering a sudden medical emergency in her patrol car shortly after making an arrest early Saturday morning, Sheriff Gregory Ahern confirmed. She was 36.

Phillips, a married mother of three children whose husband is also a sheriff's deputy assigned to Dublin Police Services, had worked for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for the past five years.

"This tragic event has touched each member of this agency," Ahern said in a statement Monday afternoon.

"Aubrey's short life will live on even after her passing," the sheriff added, noting that Phillips was a registered donor whose organs will be used to help others in medical need. "Aubrey will continue to serve her community by giving the gift of life to others in need. She was truly a remarkable person and served this



Aubrey Phillips



CHUCK DECKERT

Cyclists of all ages joined in on the Pleasanton Ridge protest ride on Feb. 6, calling for more trail access and safety improvements.

## Mountain bikers stage protest against restrictions at Pleasanton Ridge

Call for more trail access amid overcrowding, safety concerns

By CIERRA BAILEY

Dozens of mountain bikers gathered together at Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park earlier this month to call attention to what they say is a lack of trail access for cyclists to use.

The Feb. 6 demonstration consisted of a protest ride along the park's fire roads, which are the only trails mountain bikers are legally permitted to use. However, the roads are shared by hikers,

equestrians and other park users.

"Since we're only allowed to ride on fire roads and fire roads are about 8 to 20 feet wide and they condense all the user groups on the fire roads — which is horseback, dog walkers, hikers and bikers — that's where all the conflicts are happening because bikers go screaming by and it makes the hikers upset," said Chris Beratlis, who spearheaded the Pleasanton Ridge protest ride.

Beratlis, a Pleasanton resident who owns My Buddy's Bike Shop in Livermore, said this action was the result of a decades-long battle between the mountain biking community and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), which oversees and operates most of the local mountain biking trails, including at Pleasanton Ridge.

"Since day one after the park

See **BIKERS** on Page 9

See **DEPUTY** on Page 8

## TAKE US ALONG



**That story seems familiar:** Tri-Valley author Janet McCarroll reads through a recent Pleasanton Weekly that included a profile article on her debut book, “Elizabeth and the Piccadilly Council: When Buckingham Calls.”

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

## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



## HIGHLIGHTS

**City Council Special Meeting**

Tuesday, February 24, 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** - 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 direction regarding final district boundaries and the proposed sequence of elections

**Planning Commission**

Wednesday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available after February 16, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: [cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning\\_agenda.asp](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp)

- P21-1206, Robert Rossi/Sunshine Saloon, 1807 Santa Rita Rd Application to modify an existing Conditional Use Permit (UP-91-77) to allow permanent outdoor dining, including outdoor consumption of alcohol, at an existing bar. Zoning is PUD-C (Planned Unit Development – Commercial) District.

- P21-0715/P22-0126, Lighthouse Baptist School, 118 Neal Street

Applications for: 1) a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to operate a private school; and 2) a Variance/Parking Variance to allow all required on-site parking to be located at an off-site location not adjoining the subject site as required by Pleasanton Municipal Code (PMC) Section 18.88.050.A. Zoning is RM-4 (Multi-Family Residential) District.

- P21-0751, 2023-2031 (6th Cycle) Housing Element Update Review and provide a recommendation on housing policy topics including workforce housing and affordability by design as part of the 2023-2031 (6th Cycle) Housing Element Update.

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)

# Livermore PD's stop-and-arrest report finds 'no pattern of racial or ethnic disparity'

Analysis conducted as part of city's Equity and Inclusion subgroup on policing

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore City Council received a report Monday on an outside consultant's analysis of recent police department stop-and-arrest data that concluded “no clearly identifiable or concerning pattern of racial/ethnic disparity” in the encounters that took place during the specified time frame.

The analysis, which was completed as part of a project initiated by the city's Equity and Inclusion subgroup on policing, focused on Livermore Police Department statistics from between Jan. 1, 2019 and April 30, 2021.

“It's pretty incredible that our police force has acted in this unbiased way and that's not an easy thing to do. And that's where the training and the commitment to acting well is pretty incredible and it's fantastic,” Mayor Bob Woerner said upon hearing the report.

The initial scope of the project was to “examine contacts with the public during traffic stops to better understand the racial/ethnic composition of these encounters and their outcomes,” according to the report.

To support this effort, the city contracted an independent research team of criminologists from the University of Texas at San Antonio to analyze two areas of possible disparities: traffic stops and arrests by Livermore police.

While the Equity and Inclusion

Working Group concluded back on June 15, 2021, this particular project was still underway and at the time, the council asked the police department and city staff to return upon the project's completion to share the results.

The researchers examined 22,737 traffic stops and 24,065 police and civilian encounters over the course of the 26-month period, according to a statement from LPD.

In the analysis of LPD traffic stops, two benchmarks were used as comparison points. The first benchmark was a “veil of darkness” (VOD) analysis that examined differences in stop rates of non-white and white drivers during the daytime compared to the nighttime. Possible racial bias is suggested when there's a higher rate of non-white stops during daylight hours when race and ethnicity are more visible to the officers.

The second benchmark used vehicle crash data from an external state of California database and looked at the racial composition of not-at-fault and at-fault drivers involved in two-vehicle crashes.

For arrest analysis, the study examined whether civilian race/ethnicity predicted the likelihood of an arrest by Livermore police after measuring other relevant factors such as encounter, civilian and officer characteristics.

The report indicated that there was no statistical difference

between white and Black civilians in their likelihood of arrest and that Hispanic, Asian and “other” ethnic groups were less likely to be arrested compared to white civilians.

Another key finding from the report indicated that together, the results from the two benchmark analyses do not show a pattern of disparity in traffic stops based on driver race or ethnicity.

While the outcome of the analysis was positive, LPD Chief Jeramy Young said that continuing to review data is something he intends to carry forward.

“When we went into this project, I went in not knowing really what would happen. I thought that I knew what would happen because I know the quality of officers and community that we have and so, I wasn't surprised by the result but I was also prepared to deal with any issues that (the research team) found,” Young said, adding that he sees value in data and that it's important to reflect to make sure the department is being the best it can be.

Toward the end of the discussion, all of the councilmembers expressed appreciation to the consultants, the police department and to Young for their work on this project. They also commended the department for demonstrating quality policing as reflected in the results of the report. ■

## Olson named Livermore's new administrative services director

Leaving her finance director role with city of Pleasanton

By CIERRA BAILEY

After seven years, Tina Olson is stepping away from her role as director of finance for the city of Pleasanton to join the neighboring city of Livermore as its new administrative services director.

Appointed by Livermore City Manager Marc Roberts, Olson is set to officially start in her new position on March 14, according to a statement from the city.

“I am excited for Tina to join our city organization and lend her extensive experience and wealth of knowledge to our team. Her leadership will be an incredible

asset to the Administrative Services Department,” Roberts said in the statement.

While she started with the city of Pleasanton in 2015, Olson has a total of 30 years of local government experience under her belt. She has spent most of her career in government managing finance departments, but has also managed human resources, information technology, purchasing and housing authority departments.

She also holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a master's degree in public administration from San Francisco State University.

Prior to joining Pleasanton, Olson worked for the city of Pittsburg as the director of finance and administration for five years. Before that, she worked for the city and county

of San Francisco for 15 years in a variety of finance positions, including deputy director of finance and administration for the Port of San Francisco.

In her new position as Livermore's administrative services director, officials said Olson will oversee five divisions: finance, human resources, city clerk, cybersecurity and information technology.

“I am honored to join the city of Livermore, the place I call home,” Olson said in the city's statement. “I look forward to working collaboratively within the city organization and with community partners to deliver exceptional services for the Livermore community.”

Olson succeeds Doug Alessio who retired in November after nine years at the helm of the Administrative Services Department. ■



Tina Olson

# BART likely to need new funding source beyond fare revenue in coming years

Ridership recovery continues to struggle mightily amid pandemic

BART will likely need a new funding source in the coming years, the transit agency's budget officials said last week, as relying mostly on fare revenue is not expected to support operating expenses through the end of the decade.

BART's fare revenue has been unable to consistently reach beyond an average of 30% of its pre-pandemic levels over the last two years, and only began to come close last October, outperforming ridership and fare revenue projections in the agency's fiscal year 2022 budget.

That ridership fell again, however, amid the Bay Area's surge in cases tied to the omicron variant over the last three months.

As such, BART now projects it will only reach 36% of its pre-pandemic ridership when the fiscal year ends June 30, a significant drop from the 53% of pre-pandemic ridership the agency projected in the FY 2022 budget.

And while BART has received roughly \$1.3 billion in federal relief funding since the pandemic began, the agency has used roughly half of that amount, spending \$25 million per month over the last six months.

At that pace and with the agency's current operating schedule, budget officials said BART will run out of federal funding in 2024 between January and September, depending on how many riders have returned to the system by then.

"It is clear that we are facing our most challenging revenue outlook throughout our system's 50-year period," BART Assistant General Manager for Performance and Budget Pamela Herhold said during the Feb. 10 meeting of the BART Board of Directors.

Herhold added that cutting expenses will not allow BART to make up its projected deficits beyond 2024, with cumulative totals ranging from \$225 million and \$2.2 billion over the next 10 years, while still maintaining adequate service across the five counties in which it operates.

Before the pandemic, BART officials had projected average weekday ridership to surpass 500,000 once the agency's expansion into central Santa Clara County is complete.

BART's base projection is now just 70% of pre-pandemic expectations, with best-case projections at only 80%.

To make up for the long-term loss in fare revenue, BART officials said they are in the exploratory stage of placing a revenue-generating

measure on a future ballot, most likely in November 2024.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission has considered a funding measure that would support beleaguered transit agencies across all nine counties in the Bay Area.

BART budget officials also floated the possibility for funding measures specifically for BART's three-county district — which includes Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties — or all five counties in which the agency operates.

Board members balked at the BART-exclusive funding measures, arguing that voters are likely to grow fatigued if each transit agency in the Bay Area proposes its own ballot measure.

"We just need to look at it and make sure it actually gets us to a place where we can operate for the next 10, 20 years and know that we're fiscally solvent and we can continue to not only put out the service we're putting out today, but can continue to increase service," Board Chair Rebecca Saltzman said.

BART budget officials noted that funding public transit is already a low priority for voters, pointing to an August 2021 survey by Oakland analytics firm EMC Research of 800 likely November 2022 voters.

Just 22% of respondents said funding public transportation was a "very high priority." More than half of respondents, meanwhile, said funding homelessness services, public education and pandemic-related services were their top priority.

Multiple board members said that generating support for a potential funding measure will require BART and other transit agencies to make a succinct argument about why they are essential to the region.

"We have to rebuild public trust and show the public what kind of system BART is today in 2022," Board Director Janice Li said. "And it's really necessary for our survival to communicate better about what we're doing."

Board Director Debora Allen suggested BART should reconsider its staffing priorities to improve its financial standing, arguing that the BART's recent efforts to pivot away from traditional policing are not encouraging former riders to return to the system.

Allen added that potential BART riders view the system as unsafe, and issues like addressing

homelessness and personal security are regularly cited in the agency's rider surveys as areas where BART could improve.

"We do not change that (image) with ambassadors and restroom attendants and elevator attendants and social workers to help homeless people," she said. "Those are all really important initiatives for some people, but at the end of the day, the average regular rider wants to see a secure presence at BART."

Allen also argued that crime within the BART system is generally correlated with fare evasion, and suggested that hastening BART's efforts to add new fare gates that are harder to evade at its stations would spur riders to return.

"The current projection is for that to be done in five years ... The slow walk on the fare gates is not helping us," she said. "Fare gate replacement will be the one thing that makes former riders turn around and go 'hey, maybe there's some real change now and maybe let's give it a try'."

Saltzman said she has had discussions with BART's budget staff about potential cost-cutting measures the agency could take beyond what it has already done, like an incentivized retirement program, but argued it would do little to address the structural challenges BART will face going forward without high fare revenues.

"Ultimately, those aren't things that are going to close a billion-dollar gap," she said. "Since we've already cut so much, it's just not there."

## BART restoring service to pre-pandemic levels

Later next week, BART will restore service to pre-pandemic levels by running trains until midnight every day of the week.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, BART closed at 9 p.m. Sundays to work on rebuilding projects. Starting Feb. 20, Sunday service will run from 8 a.m. to midnight, BART officials said last week.

In addition, BART will run 5-line service every day until about 9 p.m., except for 12 single-tracking Sundays when cable replacement work is underway in San Francisco.

After 9 p.m., there will be 3-line service every day.

Also starting this month, BART's 3-line service that starts about 9 p.m. is matched every day with other transit agencies' timetables. To learn more, visit [www.bart.gov](http://www.bart.gov). ■

—Bay City News Service

AMAZING DEALS: UP TO 75% OFF PER BOTTLE  
All of the wines on sale retail for \$30-\$60.

Darcie Kent  
ESTATE WINERY

Presidents' Day  
BARREL ROOM SALE

FEB 17 - 21 | 10 AM to 5 PM  
THURSDAY THROUGH MONDAY

MIX AND MATCH  
(6 BOTTLE MINIMUM)  
\$15 per bottle RETAIL  
\$12 per bottle CLUB

MYSTERY CASES  
RED & WHITE OPTIONS  
\$120 RETAIL  
\$96 CLUB

Fill up your case by traveling between the socially distanced table stations. Our highest price & quality wines will be regularly restocked throughout the length of the sale.

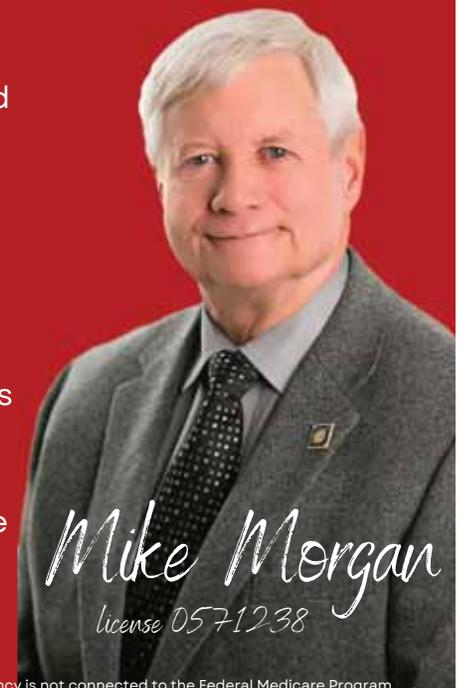
### THE FINE PRINT:

- Minimum 6 bottle purchase, PICKUP ONLY
- No sampling/ tasting in the garage by county ordinance
- One group (two people MAX) per table at a time
- Not an internet sale
- Wines must be picked up at time of sale, and cannot be delivered

DARCIE KENT ESTATE WINERY • 7000 TESLA ROAD, LIVERMORE, CA 94550

Medicare eligible  
beneficiaries:

Call me if you would like to find out about a very affordable Medicare Advantage Program with direct access to Stanford doctors and hospitals, which includes very competitive prescription drug coverage!



Mike Morgan  
license 0571238

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency is not connected to the Federal Medicare Program

Gene Morgan Insurance Agency  
2020 Fourth Street, Livermore  
(925) 447-2565 ext. 2220  
[mike@genemorganinsurance.com](mailto:mike@genemorganinsurance.com)

MULTIPLAN\_MAFLYERGMLM

# Parents lose patience over school mask mandate

State waiting until Feb. 28 to potentially change rules for face coverings on campus

By JOE HONG / CALMATTERS

Since California health officials decreed the end of the mask mandate for restaurants and grocery stores last week, frustrated parents have been asking: When can their kids take their masks off at school?

They didn't get any answers during a much-anticipated press conference Monday hosted by California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly, who said the state would wait until Feb. 28 to potentially change masking rules at schools.

The California Teachers Association, one of the state's largest unions with over 300,000 members, supported the decision to "pause and gather more information" before revising the mask mandate for schools. But some parents and educators, who until recently supported strict mask rules in the classroom, are losing their patience.

"I really started thinking, why aren't we talking about the masks coming off?" said Dr. Will Sheldon, an Oakland parent and a family medicine doctor. "There was no discussion of what the off-ramps are going to be."

## Concerns over education quality

Parents and educators interviewed by CalMatters said the social and emotional harms of long-term

masking need to be weighed against what appear to be the minimal benefits of masking amid rising vaccination rates and receding case numbers.

Sheldon said his daughter has had a harder time making new friends because masks cover her facial expressions. But of greater concern, he said, are the kids he sees in his clinic who are deaf or have other language delays and rely on reading lips to learn speech and reading.

"I think they were a good idea early in the pandemic," Sheldon said. "At this point, I'm more than ready for them to change. I think we've gone to an extreme."

Meanwhile, public health experts are saying masks will play a smaller role in 2022's pandemic playbook.

"As omicron quiets down, we're approaching a point where we can take masks off," said Robert Schooley, a professor of medicine at UC San Diego. "But if I had a 5- to 12-year-old who wasn't vaccinated, I would still want them to keep the masks on until they get vaccinated. It's not always trivial when a child gets COVID."

High-quality, tight-fitting masks have been shown to protect against transmission, but they don't completely eliminate the risk of getting COVID-19. And with the low risk of serious illness for kids, some parents are saying it's time to lift the mask

mandate and take a step towards normalcy.

While not all parents oppose masks in schools — CalMatters spoke to parents who thought they should embrace all measures to reduce the death count — some worry the masks are reducing their child's enthusiasm for learning.

"I want my son to feel excited and connected," said Patricia Johnson, an Oakland parent of a first grader. "That's what I've wanted from school all along. I want him to love school."

Jason Peplinski, the superintendent of Simi Valley Unified School District, said public health experts can't underestimate the effect wearing masks for two years has had on kids. He hopes the mandate lifts for all students. A middle ground, he said, would be a logistical nightmare.

"What I don't want to happen is for the governor to say if you're vaccinated you can unmask," Peplinski said. "That puts the onus on school districts."

Some teachers are also calling for an end to the mask mandate.

Bevin Abbe, a vocal music teacher at Santa Susana High School in Simi Valley, said masks have been stifling her students' creative expression for too long. She worries that more introverted students are hiding behind their masks, delaying their social development.

Abbe said debate over masking has become heated in her county of Ventura. Her district's teachers union declined to take a position.

"Our union has chosen to respect the different views of our membership and society, at large," said union president Amanda Hogan. "We have not taken a position on masks in the past and are unlikely to in the future."

## Public health experts endorse masks

The California Department of Public Health issued its school mask mandate in July as most of the state's school districts were set to return to fully in-person instruction for the first time since the start of the pandemic. The mandate placed the responsibility of enforcement on local school officials.

As the omicron surge led to record case numbers among students, teachers and staff, many schools were pushed to a breaking point. But as case numbers decline, more states are starting to lift school mask mandates and taking steps toward normalcy. Lawmakers in some more conservative states are working to ban mask mandates altogether.

Simi Valley's Peplinski and parents opposing the mask mandate say it doesn't make sense for a vaccinated child to be able to eat at a restaurant or shop for groceries without

a mask but have to put one on in the classroom. Public health experts, however, say the comparison isn't completely valid because education is compulsory and students spend most of their time at schools.

"If you want to go to a restaurant, that's your choice," said Andrew Noymer, a public health professor at the University of California, Irvine. "But kids need to be in schools, and I'd like to see them protected as much as possible."

Noymer said masks should be required at schools to eliminate the possibility of returning to virtual instruction. That said, he thinks the mandate could be lifted in the next month or so once case numbers and hospitalization rates are back down to where they were last May.

Noymer said the state could set various thresholds for case numbers, hospitalization rates and vaccination rates that would trigger an end to the mask mandate for schools. But on Monday, Ghaly provided no concrete metrics. He said the state would continue monitoring a variety of data points for the next two weeks.

Until then, some parents will remain exasperated.

"All they did was announce that they're having another press conference in two weeks," said Sheldon. "It felt like they were just kicking the can down the road." ■

## WEEKEND

Continued from Page 5

first weekend of the month, instead of skipping November and just having December."

Retailers did not support weekend street closures during the holiday season — especially November and December — "so their customers have access to their shops with no deterrents," staff said.

Jaime Zile, owner of Ja'ime Bridal located on Main, thanked the council for limiting the street closures to once a month "because every single weekend was a huge hit revenue-wise to my business," and said that signage pointing the way downtown would also be helpful for visitors.

"The biggest problem that we had was getting customers that were coming from 580 taking Santa Rita

and then just having a detour sign at Del Valle Parkway, and so I spent many Saturdays and Sundays directing customers on how to get to my store," Zile said.

Zile added that she "would love for the street closure to start at St. John, that would just alleviate a bottleneck in my mind because you could then get into downtown a little easier and take Peters or Ray Street."

Balancing the needs of both restaurants and retail stores was a point of discussion on Tuesday. Restaurant owners said extending the series into those months "allows them to make the most of the holiday season for their establishments."

Testa recommended having Weekend on Main twice a month and said, "I have spoken with many restaurant owners over the last couple

of weeks and they felt like they were making a compromise by saying twice a month," adding that "they do want to work together to support the retailers."

Councilmember Kathy Narum said she "wouldn't mind seeing it twice a month but I think we have to be realistic."

"We have to be honest with ourselves. Our Main Street cannot survive on restaurants alone," Narum said. "We have to find a balance here, and I believe this is a good start."

Mayor Karla Brown agreed with Narum and said, "Good business downtown means not just restaurants, not just gas stations. It means everything, so we need to encourage them. We still have some empty spots downtown and are hoping the PTA can work with the commercial

real estate agents to fill those."

Testa said, "There was an implication that going to two closures a month is not supporting the retailers or businesses. If you are looking for balance, it would be two days of closure a month and two days where it's not a month, and that is taking all of the businesses into consideration."

Councilmember Jack Balch recommended prohibiting parklet construction during the Weekend on Main period and said, "We don't want someone in the middle of a parklet construction operation on the Friday that we are shutting down for Weekend on Main. We don't want a half-built parklet."

To promote shopping locally and fellow businesses, the PDA will work with both restaurants and retailers on cross-promotion marketing. Additionally, the city and PDA will

work together "to ensure that any activities planned for the December Weekend on Main support — and don't interfere with — the holiday parade and tree lighting."

Staff said holding Weekend on Main on the first of each month will make room for Concerts in the Park on Friday nights when the streets are open.

Costs for police and traffic engineering staffing, downtown cleaning, and event oversight are absorbed as part of the city's ongoing department operations, but this year's Weekend on Main event could generate direct costs of approximately \$170,000. To support the PDA for the 2022 programing, the council will allocate \$100,000 from the Business Support Fund, which has approximately \$1.35 million available. ■

## DEPUTY

Continued from Page 5

agency and Alameda County with dignity and honor."

"We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Deputy Phillips," Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez said in a statement. "Our hearts go out to Dublin Police Services, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, and to her family, especially to her husband

and her three children. They are part of the Dublin community and, as fellow community members, we need to come together and support them through this unimaginable tragedy."

The flags on city poles are flying at half-staff until sunset on the day Phillips is laid to rest, according to Dublin City Manager Linda Smith.

Phillips was working her normal overnight patrol shift in Dublin, which contracts with ACSO for

police services, when she conducted a traffic enforcement stop just after 1:45 a.m. Saturday (Feb. 12) on the driver of a vehicle she would later arrest, according to the sheriff's office.

In the process of that arrest, Phillips experienced an undisclosed "severe and acute medical emergency" while seated in her patrol vehicle, according to ACSO. Another deputy noticed Phillips in distress, began attempting life-saving measures

and called for emergency medical response.

She was rushed to Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare in Pleasanton in critical condition, and then transported to John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek for life-saving intervention. "Tragically, medical professionals were unable to save her life and she passed away," officials said.

Phillips is survived by her husband and three young children. She

was also the daughter of a longtime Alameda County sheriff's deputy who retired from the department.

"Our agency is heartbroken over the sudden death of Deputy Phillips. We are providing counseling and peer support to our members impacted by her loss," ACSO officials said.

Memorial services are pending, with details expected to be released when available. ■

## BIKERS

Continued from Page 5

district was formed, biking was not allowed, and when they allowed it after biking became more popular in the '70s and '80s, they were only allowed to be on fire roads, just like they are now," Beratlis said. "So, no laws have changed, no rules have changed. They've treated the biking community almost as if we're outlaws, and we're not."

Using social media to spread the word about the protest ride, Beratlis said he saw people come from other communities to support the effort, including Modesto and even from as far as South Lake Tahoe.

Over the past 20 years, Beratlis said that he and other members of the mountain biking community attended several meetings, including with the Pleasanton City Council and EBRPD, to make requests for more riding options for mountain bikers. He said that they received "nothing but 100% resistance."

San Ramon resident and avid mountain biker Ron Balthasar shared similar sentiments.

"We've gone to countless meetings — land access meetings — I've filled out a lot of documents, we've tried to go about this the correct way and work with East Bay Regional Park District but there's been absolutely no results and if anything it's gotten worse," Balthasar said, adding that bike riders have recently been receiving tickets for riding on other existing trails within the parks that are not designated for bikes.

Both Balthasar and Beratlis said bikers have resorted to using the alternative trails to alleviate overcrowding on the fire roads.

"The current policies are that



Chris Beratlis addresses the dozens of mountain bikers who participated in the Pleasanton Ridge protest ride.

we're all allowed on the same fire roads, which is very, very unsafe. It's ridiculous how unsafe it is and that's what we were trying to demonstrate," Balthasar said of the protest ride.

He said that on the day of the event, he spoke to some of the hikers in the park and let them know what was going on. He said the protest was actually well-received by the hikers he spoke to who agreed that they need separate trails. "They don't want to see a bicycle coming down a hill that they're walking up," Balthasar said of the hikers.

While the access issue existed pre-pandemic, overcrowding on the trails has become exacerbated by an influx of park users over the past two years, which EBRPD does recognize as an issue, according to Brian Holt, EBRPD chief of planning, trails and GIS.

"When gyms were closed and a lot of other things were closed, people from all user groups and stakeholder groups rediscovered the parks," Holt said, adding that the increase in demand is not going away even as

pandemic restrictions ease.

Like Beratlis and Balthasar, Holt also said there have been decades of tension between the mountain biking community and the park district.

Holt said that a trail user working group that was formed after a 2019 board workshop explored several ideas and concerns among the various park user groups, including hikers, cyclists, dog walkers and others.

While the working group has since phased out, he said that their discussions led to some short-term strategy ideas for how to address growing mountain bike demand in the parks.

Among those ideas are some pilot programs that could potentially be implemented, such as operational controls like designating certain trails as one directional or exploring alternate use days for trails where mountain bikes are permitted on some days and other days are strictly for hikers or equestrians, according to Holt.

Beratlis and Balthasar both said that there are existing trails at Pleasanton Ridge and other EBRPD parks

that could be designated for mountain biking but currently are not.

Holt said that redesignating trails gets into policy decisions that the Board of Directors would have to make. "Under our existing ordinance 38, bikes are prohibited on any trails that are less than 8 feet wide and that's the regulation," Holt said.

He continued, "There can be exceptions to it; certainly it's possible that the board could vote to exempt certain trails, but I think there's concerns about the user built trails in that they haven't gone through what would be the traditional process, which is environmental review and a look at how the full system works. And that's generally something that is voted on and approved by our board, and that also gives all the other stakeholders an opportunity to provide input. So that's where, frankly, this process gets hung up a lot of times."

Holt said that while addressing the needs of the mountain biking community is one of the goals of

EBRPD's master plan that was adopted in 2013, it is a challenging process — particularly amid controversy and tension that tend to make policy decisions difficult.

"We've been working with the mountain biking community for a long time and we will continue to," Holt said.

He added, "While things may seem slow and unresponsive, we're working within a difficult political and permitting environment with these types of things, so we're trying to continue to find those opportunities to partner. And moving forward, the only way any of this is going to be successful is a good partnership where we're all working together and understanding the constraints that we have at the park district and our need for environmental protection and safe trail experiences."

Beratlis said that he plans to host additional protest rides at other EBRPD parks until there is some action taken to address the biking community's concerns. ■

## Masks recommended, but end of mandate not to everyone's liking

'This does land as a big change for some people', Dr. Moss says

A public indoor mask mandate ended in Alameda County on Wednesday while masks remain "recommended for everyone," county health officer Dr. Nicholas Moss told the Board of Supervisors this week.

Alameda County is joining 11 other local jurisdictions in ending the mandate, which is the state's policy, too.

"This does land as a big change for some people," Moss said at the board meeting Tuesday, the day before the mandate removal took effect.

Residents and visitors will still be required to wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are unvaccinated and in health care and child care settings, schools, long-term care facilities and jails and prisons regardless of vaccination status.

Moss said the risk of getting infected with COVID-19 is much

lower now than in the peak of the winter wave. That peak was the highest of any since the pandemic began, county data show.

"We have come down substantially from that," Moss said.

Not everyone was happy with Moss' decision to join the other jurisdictions in ending the mandate.

Supervisor Keith Carson said he prefers keeping the mandate in place until there is "a much better sense of where things are going."

In public comment, a caller by the name of Jenn L. was disturbed by Moss's decision.

"You are sending people to their deaths," she said.

Earlier, Moss said that that the county may need masks again. He argued that health officials need to be mindful of how they are using their emergency powers so that those powers are effective again if needed.

In Moss' report, which he has delivered at many board meetings, he said the case rate in the county on Feb. 6 was at 53 per 100,000 residents per day and falling.

About 240 people were hospitalized with COVID-19 or with something else along with COVID-19, he said.

Since Jan. 1, 113 people in the county have died from COVID-19 and Moss expects that number to rise.

During the winter wave last year, 720 people died in Alameda County, Moss said.

Vaccination data show 82.2% of all county residents are fully vaccinated and 54% of all 5- to 11-year-olds are fully vaccinated.

More than 800,000 booster shots have been given, Moss reported. Among the fully vaccinated in the county, 59% have received a booster. ■

—Keith Burbank, BCN

LIVERMORE VALLEY Opera

30<sup>th</sup> SEASON

OTELLO

GIUSEPPE VERDI

Otello	Jago	Desdemona	Emilia	Cassio

Opening Night Dinner, Mar. 5, 2022 at 4 pm \$95  
 Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, sponsored by Longevity Wines

Saturday, Mar. 5, 2022 at 7:30 pm  
 Sunday, Mar. 6, 2022 at 2:00 pm Tickets \$20-\$95  
 Saturday, Mar. 12, 2022 at 7:30 pm  
 Sunday, Mar. 13, 2022 at 2:00 pm

**THE BANKHEAD THEATER**  
**MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup>, 12<sup>TH</sup> AND 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**  
 TICKETS: 925-373-6800 • LVOpera.com

# State sues Tesla alleging widespread racial discrimination at Fremont plant

Car company denies allegations; state agency accuses Tesla of turning ‘blind eye to years of complaints’

California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) brought suit last week against Tesla Inc., accusing the company of a far-reaching and pervasive pattern of racially discriminatory conduct against Black and African American workers at its Fremont plant.

The civil rights suit is the culmination of a three-year investigation into conditions at the plant. DFEH allegedly considered hundreds of complaints from workers and “found evidence that defendants subjected its Black and/or African American workers to racial harassment and discriminated against them in the terms and conditions of employment, including assignment, discipline, promotion, termination, and constructive discharge.”

Tesla struck back even before the suit was filed, releasing a public statement that carried the provocative caption “The DFEH’s Misguided Lawsuit.” The statement challenged DFEH’s credibility and claimed that the conduct investigated occurred in the period from 2015 and 2019 and ignored the company’s recent efforts in diversity, equity and inclusion.

The release points out that Tesla is

the only California car manufacturer and “provides the best paying jobs in the automotive industry to over 30,000 Californians.”

The release goes on to say that Tesla is a world leader in innovation, sustainability and clean energy, and concludes that “attacking a company like Tesla that has done so much good for California should not be the overriding aim of a state agency with prosecutorial authority.”

DFEH counted with its own public statement on Feb. 10, stating that Tesla “has turned a blind eye to years of complaints from Black workers protesting the near-constant use of racial slurs and derogatory language in the workplace, and the presence of racist writing and graffiti in common areas of the workplace, including swastikas and other hate symbols.”

The Fremont plant was previously a General Motors facility. Tesla purchased it in 2010 and retooled it to produce electric vehicles. According to the DFEH complaint, the facility has 5.3 million square feet of space on 370 acres and employs more than 15,000 workers.

According to the state agency’s allegation allegations, Black and

African American workers at the plant were subjected to daily racial slurs and graffiti — including the “N-word,” KKK signs, the Confederate flag and swastikas — amidst ongoing discriminatory conduct.

DFEH alleges that the plant was physically segregated, with Black workers assigned to work in separate areas and given work that was more physically challenging and dangerous than that assigned to white workers.

Complaints by Black workers were, according to DFEH, “ignored, immediately dismissed, or perfunctorily investigated and then dismissed.”

The complaint reports that a common complaint of the workers DFEH interviewed was that Black and African American workers were “taunted by racial slurs and then baited into verbal and physical confrontations, where they, in turn, were the ones disciplined for being purportedly ‘aggressive’ or ‘threatening.’”

DFEH alleges that the company’s human resources function was chronically understaffed and unable or unwilling to deal with the issues.

The suit says that in recent years, Tesla has turned to outsourcing the hiring of workers to private staffing

agencies. DFEH states that Tesla took this route because in the event of a complaint about a worker, the staffing agency would have to do the investigation.

The DFEH brought the suit on behalf of the people of California and also on behalf of a “group” — like the “class” in a class action — of workers at the Fremont plant.

The complaint lists separate claims for race discrimination by harassment, by job assignment, and in compensation, discipline, promotion, termination, discharge, retaliation, and pay.

In many of the claims, DFEH alleges that the company’s actions “were willful, malicious, fraudulent, and oppressive, and were committed with the wrongful intent to injure Black and/or African American workers in conscious disregard of their rights.”

DFEH seeks money damages as well as injunctive relief.

Tesla has not filed a formal response to the suit, although in its press release it says that it “will be asking the court to pause the case and take other steps to ensure that facts and evidence will be heard.”

In its press release, Tesla alleged that “DFEH has been asked on almost 50 occasions by individuals who believe they were discriminated against or harassed to investigate Tesla. On every single occasion, when the DFEH closed an investigation, it did not find misconduct against Tesla.”

It dismisses the suit as “a narrative spun by the DFEH and a handful of plaintiff firms to generate publicity.”

In October 2021, Tesla was slapped with a \$137 million jury award in a race discrimination case brought by a Black former employee who alleged racial abuse while working as an elevator operator at the company.

Tesla’s contentious interactions with the state of California and Gov. Gavin Newsom, as well as fights with Alameda County over COVID-19 restrictions on plant operations, led to Tesla’s announcement in October 2021 that it would move company headquarters from California to Austin, Texas.

The complaint suggests that the announcement was “another move to avoid accountability.” ■

—Joe Dworetzky, BCN Foundation

An annual magazine featuring Pleasanton neighborhoods.

## Our Neighborhoods

Coming inside your Pleasanton Weekly on **February 25, 2022**

**Our Neighborhoods** showcases selected neighborhoods and captures the particular qualities that make it unique.

Each Neighborhood profile includes local features — such as parks and shopping centers — and a fact box including the median home sale price, how many homes were sold and the nearby schools.

Our Neighborhoods is a great resource for current residents or those looking to relocate to the Tri-Valley.

2021 edition available at <https://tinyurl.com/ycks3cxn>

**Pleasanton  
Weekly**

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Child, mother drown in Blackhawk pool; sheriff's office investigating

A woman and her young daughter each died at an area hospital after becoming unresponsive in the same swimming pool in Blackhawk on Saturday afternoon, according to the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office.

The sheriff's office is investigating the deaths, and "at this point, it does not appear suspicious and there are no signs of foul play," sheriff's spokesman Jimmy Lee told the Weekly on Saturday night.

The woman was identified on Tuesday as Llaneth Chavez, 31, of Hollister in San Benito County. The sheriff's office declined to release the name of the 4-year-old child who died, but did confirm she was Chavez's daughter.

Blackhawk deputies responded to a house on East Ridge Court just before 3 p.m. Saturday on a report of a woman who was in a swimming pool and wasn't breathing, according to Lee.

When the first deputy arrived, he was informed that a child had also become unresponsive in the pool and was already being transported to San Ramon Regional Medical Center, Lee said. Emergency personnel were attending to the woman in the backyard and she was then taken to the same hospital.

The girl and the woman were both pronounced dead at San Ramon Regional on Saturday. Lee said autopsies were conducted on Monday morning, and causes of death for both mother and daughter are still pending.

Lee declined to elaborate on additional details about the ongoing investigation, including what the circumstances were leading up to the drownings.

Anyone with information about this case can contact the sheriff's Investigation Division at 925-313-2600, or send tips via email to tips@so.cccounty.us or by phone anonymously to 866-846-3592, according to Lee.

—Jeremy Walsh

## In other news

- The Santa Clara County Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office last Friday confirmed the identity of the woman who died after her bicycle and an SUV collided on rural Mines Road south of Livermore earlier in the month.

The cyclist, who was pronounced dead at the scene following the head-on crash, was 49-year-old Fremont resident Ellen Mai Le.

The collision occurred at about 2:30 p.m. Feb. 6 and involved a Land Rover traveling southbound and a bicyclist riding northbound on Mines Road south of San Antonio Valley Road across the border in Santa Clara County not far from Mount Hamilton.

"As the Land Rover entered a right-to-left curve in the roadway, the driver allowed the vehicle to drift over the center divider lines by approximately one to two feet," California Highway Patrol Officer Ross Lee said at the time. "The bicyclist entered this same curve in the roadway, from the opposite direction, and while negotiating through the curve, allowed the bicycle to cross over the solid divider lines."

The SUV and bicycle collided head-on, according to the CHP, and Le was knocked off her bicycle and struck the ground, causing major injuries that proved fatal.

The SUV driver, a 27-year-old man whose identity has not been released, was reportedly uninjured.

Officer Lee said neither alcohol nor drugs appear to be factors in the crash based on the evidence thus far. The fatal collision remains under investigation by CHP-San Jose.

—Jeremy Walsh

- Some inmates in Santa Rita Jail in Dublin may appeal a settlement and consent decree approved last week mainly to address how mentally ill inmates are treated at the jail.

Magistrate Judge Nathanael Cousins approved a settlement in Babu vs. Alameda County that aims to improve the "horrific" treatment of inmates with mental health diagnoses and those with psychiatric disabilities, lawyers for the inmates who

filed suit have said.

But lawyers for inmates opposed to the settlement say the reforms do not go far enough.

Cousins heard from 39 inmates for several hours on Jan. 27, all opposed to the settlement, and he approved it.

"It is disappointing that Judge Cousins heard 5.5 hours of testimony from inmates, and yet hardly responded in his Order to their comments," attorney Yolanda Huang said in a statement on behalf of the objecting inmates.

She said the inmates who objected did so because the decree won't improve conditions for most of them. Numerous inmates have been in touch with Huang about an appeal, which the Ninth Circuit would hear.

Objecting inmates and their attorneys have 30 days to file the appeal.

—Keith Burbank, BCN

- Authorities are investigating the death of a man who was discovered unresponsive outdoors in the area of Dublin Boulevard and San Ramon Road last week.

The situation unfolded around 3 p.m. Feb. 9 when Dublin police officers were dispatched to the scene for a welfare check on a person lying on the ground, according to Lt. Matt Farruggia.

Officers and paramedics arrived to find the man unresponsive, and though emergency responders provided medical attention, he was pronounced dead at the scene, Farruggia told the Weekly.

The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau identified the decedent as Torrey Cannon, 46, of Modesto.

Farruggia said coroner's officials took possession of the body and are investigating the man's cause of death, which had not yet been determined.

The police response and coroner's presence in public at the gas station property at the prominent intersection in southwestern Dublin that afternoon drew inquiries from residents, including on local social media channels.

—Jeremy Walsh

- Authorities have identified the teenage boy from Stockton who died from injuries sustained in the

second of successive crashes on Interstate 580 in Pleasanton just before Christmas.

The coroner's bureau on Friday confirmed the decedent was 16-year-old Samuel Gutierrez — although multiple brief online obituaries out of Stockton said the boy's full name was Samuel Atilio Gutierrez-Chinchilla, with the fatal collision occurring four days after his birthday.

The situation unfolded at about 2:35 a.m. Dec. 19, with two separate crashes in quick succession on eastbound I-580 at the Hopyard Road interchange, according to the California Highway Patrol's Dublin office.

The two vehicles in the initial collision became disabled in the No. 2 and No. 4 lanes, respectively, after a non-injury crash. The driver of a third vehicle did not see the stalled car blocking the No. 2 lane and crashed into it at freeway speeds, causing that previously stopped vehicle to burst into flames, the CHP said.

Gutierrez, who was a passenger in the aflame vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The CHP investigation remains ongoing. The agency reported at the time that DUI was not considered to be a factor in the fatal crash. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

## Donald Odean Mazy

June 23, 1938 – February 1, 2022

Donald (Don) O. Mazy left this plane of existence for his next flight on February 1st, 2022. He was born on June 23, 1938 in Muskogee, OK to Virgie M. (Ellison) and Travis O. Mazy before moving to the Abilene, TX area in 1939. Don graduated from Abilene High in 1956, attended Texas A&M, and graduated from McMurry College in 1962.



After teaching math for a year, Don joined the Navy. He was awarded Naval Aviation Observer (Navigation) wings in August 1964, and ordered to Bombardier/Navigator training in the A3B "Skywarrior" aircraft. During his 21-year military career, he made deployments to various aircraft carriers often as Officer in Charge of his detachment. On his last deployment to the USS Midway, he made his 409th and last carrier landing. His other assignments were to various squadrons at Whidbey Island, WA, Corpus Christi, TX, Agana, Guam, and Alameda, CA. He reached the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) and assumed command of Auxiliary Landing Field, Crows Landing, CA where he retired from active duty in 1984. After retirement from the Navy, he was a substitute teacher, worked at a local photo shop, and as an instructor for the Pleasanton Unified School District for both the Senior Adult Education and High School Completion programs. He was also a volunteer docent aboard the USS Hornet Museum, a Lay Speaker for the United Methodist Church, and member of the USS Hornet Amateur Radio Club (HARC) and the Livermore Amateur Klub (LARK).

Don was a loving husband, father, and Poppa to his granddaughter. He often said the most important time in his life was in March 1965 when he met the love of his life and future wife, Elaine (Goodland Deming) and her children, whom he raised as his own. He loved clothes and was known for his tie collection. He was an avid photographer - often sitting on the beach for many hours taking pictures of sunrises and sunsets. He also enjoyed many other hobbies including playing bridge, listening to classical music, baking (especially anything chocolate), and being a ham radio operator with call sign KK6AFQ. As an ardent sports fan, one of his favorite things was to watch his beloved Dallas Cowboys. He will be remembered by all who knew him as a good-natured, kind-hearted, and charismatic man who loved to tell a good story.

Don was preceded in death by his parents and older brother Tommie Ray. He leaves behind his wife Elaine, daughter Charlayne Deming and her husband Douglas Hatch, granddaughter Jenna Hatch, and son Roger Deming and his wife Cindy (Bates). He is thankful for the loving support of his in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Friends and family are invited to a Celebration of Life on February 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street in Pleasanton, CA. A private military burial will be held at a later date. The family requests memorial gifts be made to the American Cancer Society (<https://donate3.cancer.org/>).

PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### Feb. 11

#### Fraud

■ 7:13 a.m. on the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard

#### Warrant arrest

■ 9:06 a.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

#### Robbery

■ 3:59 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### Feb. 10

#### Burglary

■ 12:14 a.m. on the 4300 block of Valley Avenue

#### Domestic battery

■ 1:38 a.m. on Hopyard Road

#### Theft from auto

■ 9:36 a.m. on the 4200 block of Diavila Avenue

■ 11:51 a.m. on the 2100 block of Alexander Way

#### Vandalism

■ 1:25 p.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

### Feb. 9

#### Fraud

■ 8:34 a.m. on the 1000 block of Vintner Way

#### Graffiti offense

■ 8:43 a.m. on the 1200 block of Hopyard Road

#### Theft

■ 12:41 p.m. on the 300 block of Main Street

■ 1:14 p.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; auto theft

■ 3:28 p.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Loop

■ 5:54 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft

#### Burglary

■ 1:00 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

#### Drug violation

■ 4:06 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

#### DUI

■ 4:28 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Inglewood Drive

### Feb. 8

#### Fraud

■ 8:03 a.m. on the 3500 block of Arbor Court

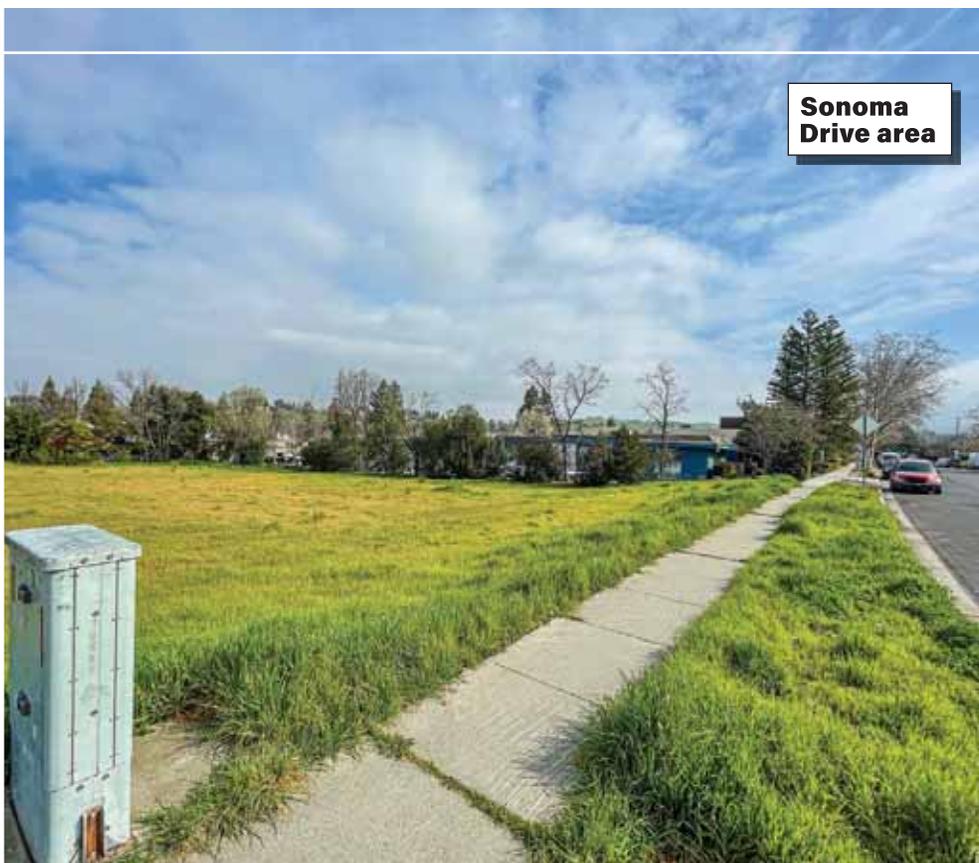
■ 9:25 a.m. on the 4200 block of First Street

■ 10:00 a.m. on the 1500 block of Loganberry Way

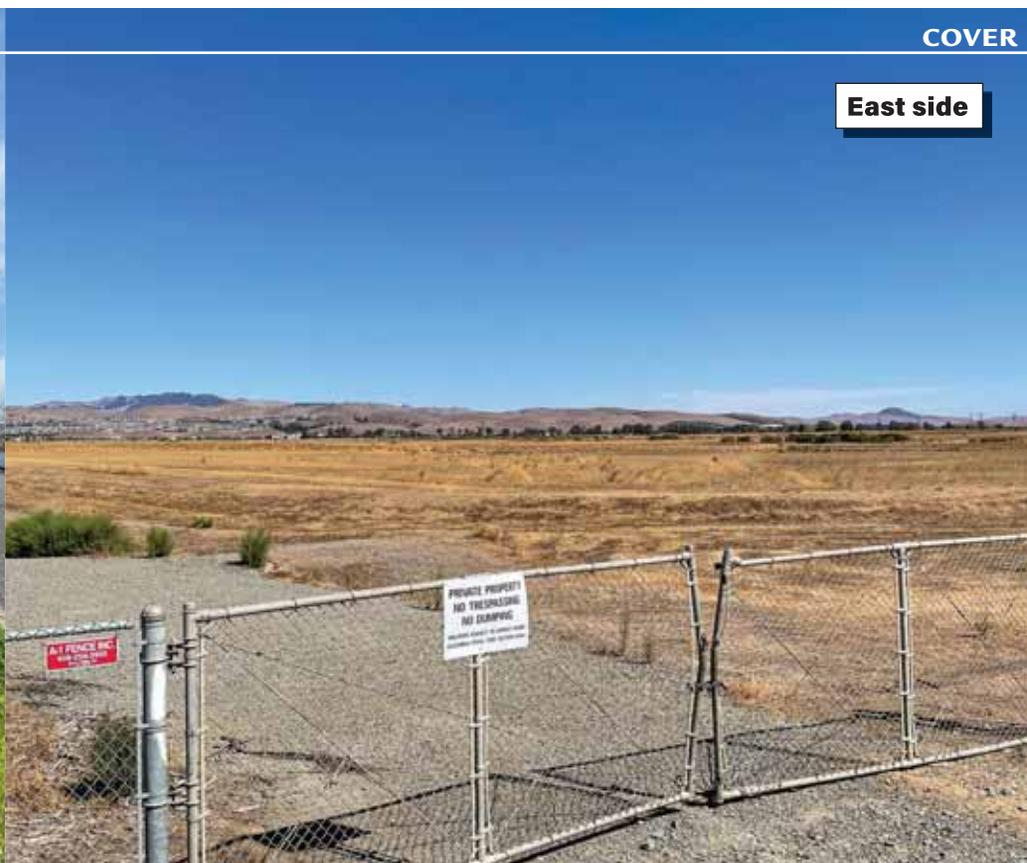
■ 2:24 p.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Loop

#### Theft

■ 9:44 a.m. on the 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sonoma  
Drive area

East side



# WHERE SHOULD THE HOUSING GO?

STORY BY JULIA BAUM

PHOTOS BY JEREMY WALSH AND JULIA BAUM

After a month-long delay, the Pleasanton City Council decided on a final inventory list of housing sites that will be included in the environmental analysis for the upcoming Housing Element update during a lengthy special meeting last week.

"I'm proud of the council; we worked it through. I think it was very clear that all council members struggled with picking these sites," Mayor Karla Brown told the Weekly on Feb. 10. "We want to find sites that are low impact to existing neighborhoods yet meet the state mandates for additional housing."

Four of the 28 sites originally proposed did not make the final list at the 5-1/2-hour meeting on Feb. 8, including Mission Plaza, Stanford Health Care-Valley Care, SteelWave on Pleasanton's east side and Pimlico Drive south. The former two sites were removed for different reasons

by the respective property owners while the council voted to remove both SteelWave and Pimlico south.

The council ultimately approved sites for 5,030 majority units to go forward in the environmental impact report (EIR) process. Vice Mayor Valerie Arkin told the Weekly that a 50% buffer was decided on "in case anything is deleted off due to the EIR" — as the ultimate site inventory list, as well as the EIR itself, won't be finalized until the sixth cycle Housing Element is adopted by the council and accepted by the state.

In an interview last week, Councilmember Julie Testa said the city is "self-imposing additional density" with the 50% buffer that residents do not want.

**'We want to find sites that are low impact to existing neighborhoods yet meet the state mandates.'**

**Karla Brown,**  
Pleasanton mayor

and Community Development) even."

Councilmember Kathy Narum supported keeping all of the sites on the inventory, and said that "it's really important to keep as much maximum flexibility as we can" because some might not pass California Environmental Quality Act analysis.

"We could have the state housing department say 'no, we don't think that's buildable,'" Narum said. "They could either say that doesn't count

"Staff's recommendation is to go 50% over what the state is mandating," Testa said. "There is some legitimacy but nowhere near that volume. 50% is already way beyond what is recommended by (the California Department of Housing

or lower the density, we don't know. You don't know what can happen, and the other piece that's new is the no net loss provision."

Narum explained, "If one of the sites we zone for and actually do the rezoning has 100 units of 30 to the acre, that counts as very low (income). When in fact, a project comes through, the likelihood is that it will be 80% market and 20% below, so we have to rezone something to make up that 80-something loss."

Because of this, Narum said "it's important when we all get through this, not only are we able to rezone to meet our RHNA allocation of 3,100 homes, but that we also have some sites we can go to rezone in the event that the no net loss provision is triggered."

Stanford-ValleyCare was removed itself from the list, with the hospital citing plans for future expansion, while Brown said the owner of Mission Plaza wanted to remove themselves and sent a letter to the council stating "they're happy being removed" if neighboring Valley Plaza decides to

Tri-Valley Inn

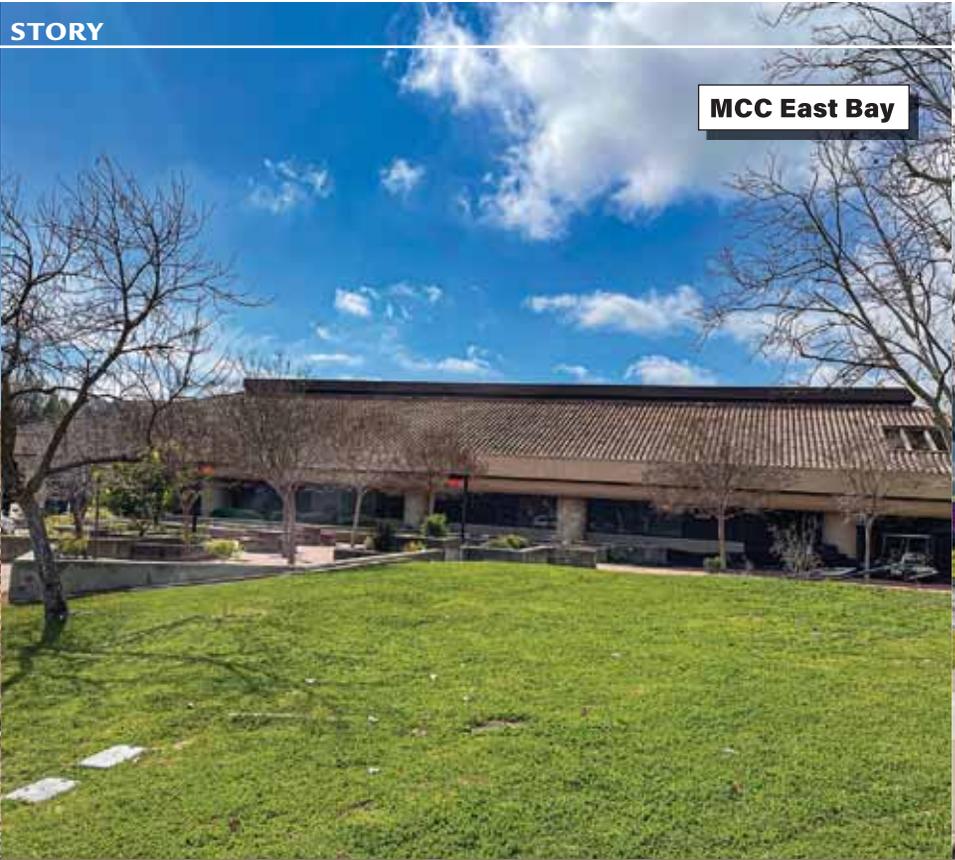


Motel 6



MCC East Bay

Sunol Boulevard area



# Pleasanton council advances site inventory list to next stage of review process

## SITE INVENTORY LIST

- Lester property
- Stoneridge Shopping Center
- Donlon Elementary School property
- Owens Drive sites (Motel 6 and Tommy T's)
- Laborers Council
- Signature Center
- Hacienda Terrace
- Muslim Community Center of the East Bay
- Metro 580
- Old Santa Rita area
- Pimlico Drive area, north
- St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church
- Rheem Drive area
- Tri-Valley Inn
- Valley Plaza
- Black Avenue area
- Boulder Court
- Kiewit affordable housing site
- Kiewit market-rate housing sites
- Merritt property
- Sunol Boulevard area
- Sonoma Drive area
- Pleasanton Unified School District headquarters
- St. Augustine Catholic Church
- PUSD's Vineyard Avenue property
- Oracle property

move forward with development plans.

In a 3-2 vote, with Narum and Councilmember Jack Balch dissenting, the council removed the SteelWave sites on the city's east side. Arkin said it was "a contentious issue with the public process that was halted awhile back" and that "going forward seems like it is circumventing the public process."

Narum supported development of the Steel-Waves sites and said that "at some point we need to have a conversation. Are we going to densify in the city or put some around the periphery?"

"If you don't put these sites in the EIR, they're out of the discussion. It's easy to take them out, it's hard to put them back in if you don't have them as part of the CEQA process," Narum said.

However, Brown said both of the SteelWave sites ranked "very low on transit-oriented development metrics" due to a lack of existing infrastructure, among other reasons.

"They're far away from BART, regular bus service, trains, freeways, and not near schools, much

shopping," Brown said. "It just ranked extremely low for our metrics for our sites. It's extremely expensive to build in those outlying sprawl areas and that's why it ranked low."

A proposal to build on several sites owned by the Pleasanton Unified School District proved to be controversial, according to Brown, and prompted "lots of emails against zoning" from community members.

Testa and Brown cast the two dissenting votes to include Donlon Elementary School on the list on the grounds that "we risk having in this cycle 20% more housing and no opportunity to mitigate school growth," Testa said. "My message is, that is shortsighted and I would not support that."

Arkin, who served on the school board before being voted on the council in 2020, said that the Donlon site "may be needed later for a new school or school expansion," and opposed developing another district-owned parcel on Vineyard Avenue for similar reasons.

"From a historical perspective in Pleasanton, every time that I have known the district to give up land or land options, it was a mistake," Arkin said.

When it came to the PUSD administration office site on Bernal Avenue, "This is a major piece of land downtown and I wanted some retail component and less density," Arkin said. "I would have preferred to remove it entirely, but agreed to reduce density to 81-163 (from 153-254), include it for workforce housing, and a retail component is optional."

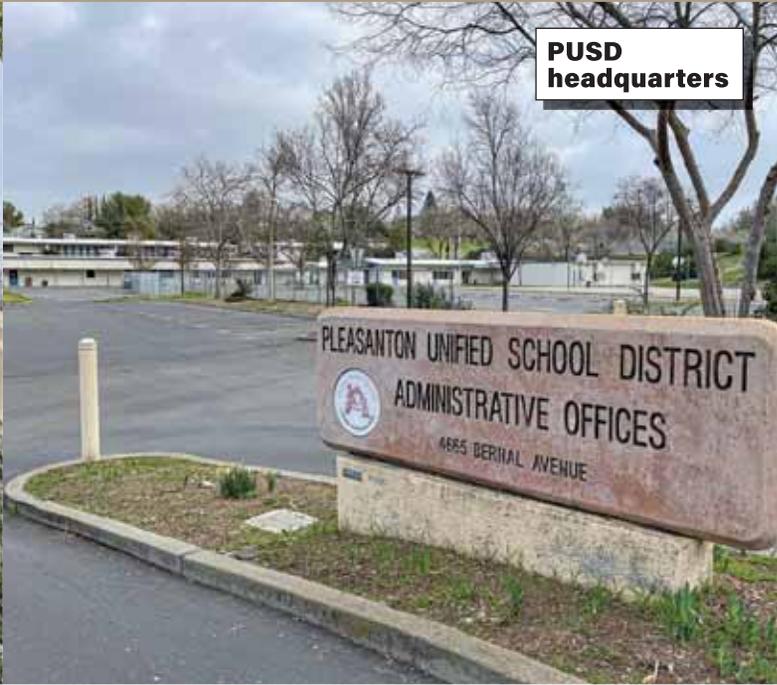
Narum said she was "happy" the PUSD administration office site made the list. "It's a good site to add some additional housing and be able to support the downtown, I was happy about that. I think that site's underutilized for what they need."

An environmental impact report of all the sites on the inventory list will be prepared by an outside consultant. Once the council has evaluated the data, the report will be submitted to the state for review and potential certification. ■

Stoneridge Shopping Center

St. Augustine Church

PUSD headquarters



## Spirited shows on tap at Bankhead Theater

Livermore venue ready for Presidents' Day weekend — plus unveils gala headliner, Randy Newman

By JEREMY WALSH

February continues to be a big month for the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

As the downtown venue prepared for a packed Presidents' Day weekend of entertainment, Livermore Arts this week also announced the headliner for its annual signature fundraising gala scheduled for September: award-winning singer and songwriter Randy Newman.

"With songs that run the gamut, from heartbreaking to satirical, and a host of unforgettable film scores, Randy Newman has used his many talents to create musical masterpieces widely recognized by generations of audiences," Livermore Arts officials said in highlighting the famed performer who will take to the stage for *Brilliance at the Bankhead* on Sept. 10.

Newman, who will be accompanied by the Livermore-Amador Symphony, is perhaps best known for his work as a film composer and songwriter, which took off on the heels of his successful solo performing career that began more than 50 years ago and included hits like "I Think It's Going to Rain Today" and "Short People."

Now recognized by generations young and old for his songs in Disney/Pixar movies, such as the family classic "You've Got a Friend in Me" from the first "Toy Story" movie, Newman's film catalog touches a range of genres including "The Natural," "Ragtime," "Awakenings," "Seabiscuit" and "Marriage Story."

Part of a legacy family of Hollywood film composers, Newman won the Academy Award for Best Original Song for "If I Didn't Have You" from "Monsters, Inc." in 2002 and again for "We Belong Together" from "Toy Story 3" in 2011 — among his 22 Oscar nominations among Best Song and Best Original Score over the decades.

The pianist has also earned seven Grammys and three Emmys, as well as received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.



LIVERMORE ARTS

The Presidents' Day week slate at the Bankhead includes The Dirty Dozen Brass Band (above), Bohemian Queen (top right), Storm Large (bottom left) and Nathan Williams of Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Cha's (bottom center). The theater also announced Randy Newman (bottom right) as the headliner for its annual gala.

Brilliance at the Bankhead on Sept. 10 will be Livermore Arts largest fundraiser of the year, with proceeds supporting the Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center, as well as the nonprofit's educational and cultural arts outreach activities. In addition to the Newman performance, the event will feature a gourmet dinner, raffle prizes, and live and silent auctions. Sponsorships and VIP tickets are available now, while public seats go on sale June 2.

Meanwhile, Livermore Arts has plenty of action left on the schedule for the 2021-22 season, including three shows coming up in the week ahead around Presidents' Day.

Leading things off this holiday weekend will be a tribute to classic rock band Queen this Saturday.

The Bohemian Queen concert sees Paulie Z take on the Freddie Mercury role, supported by accomplished artists in their own rights on instrumentals.

"Star Paulie Z brings all the theatricality and vocal gymnastics of the late, great Queen frontman to life in this rock spectacle," Livermore Arts officials said. They'll perform many of the hits, like "We Will Rock You," "Stone Cold Crazy," "Don't Stop Me Now," and, of course, "Bohemian Rhapsody".

Bohemian Queen is set for 8 p.m. this Saturday (Feb. 19).

Then the next night, the



Bankhead will usher in Fat Tuesday a bit early with Mardi Gras Mambo, featuring two top Louisiana musical acts: The Dirty Dozen Brass Band and Nathan and The Zydeco Cha Cha's.

Since being founded in New Orleans in 1977, The Dirty Dozen Brass Band "has taken the traditional foundation of brass band music and incorporated it into a blend of genres including bebop jazz, funk and R&B/soul," Livermore Arts reps said.

"This unique sound, described by the band as a 'musical gumbo', has allowed the Dirty Dozen to tour across five continents and more than 30 countries, record 12 studio albums, and collaborate with a range of artists from Modest Mouse to Widespread Panic to Norah Jones," they added.

The band will be joined in Livermore by Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Cha's, whose members are



Wayne "Blue" Burns, Mark Anthony Williams, Gerard St. Julien, Nathan Williams, Allen "Cat Roy" Broussard and Dennis Paul Williams.

The afternoon concert is set for 3 p.m. Sunday (Feb. 20).

The musical stylings will carry on next Thursday at the Bankhead as singer Storm Large will make her return to the Livermore stage.

"Whether in a nightclub or on a concert stage, singer-songwriter Storm Large uses the thrilling power of her voice to connect with audiences on a deep and emotional level," officials said. "A singer, songwriter, actor, author, and playwright, (she) has crafted a career that shares her immense creative talents with her legions of faithful fans, which she'll be doing so again locally on Feb. 24."

Her concert at the Bankhead will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Tickets for all Livermore Arts



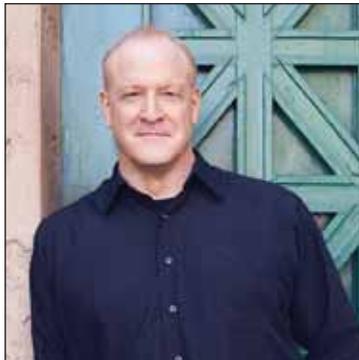
shows can be purchased online at [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org), by calling 925-373-6800 or at the box office windows.

Representatives at the venue reminded residents last week that [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org) is the only official online ticket purchase point for the Bankhead and its local artistic companies.

"Several online websites or 'brokers' will lead you to believe they are an official website for ticket purchases for our events. Livermore Arts assumes no liability for these tickets and cannot resolve any disputes involving their use," they said.

"The Bankhead Theater continues to keep COVID safety protocols in place with enhanced air circulation, no touch ticketing and masks required in the theater. Until further notice, proof of vaccination will also be required for entry," they added. ■





Rising tenor Limmie Pulliam (above) will play Otello, alongside soprano Elaine Alvarez (top left) as Desdemona and bass-baritone Phillip Skinner (bottom left) as Jago.



Zachary and Dylan Zmed will perform their Everly Brothers Experience in Pleasanton next month.

## Everly Brothers Experience coming to Firehouse Arts

Tribute show set for March 5

Celebrated brother performers Zachary and Dylan Zmed are bringing their Everly Brothers tribute concert to the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton early next month.

The Everly Brothers, who rode their two-part harmony success all the way to both the Rock and Roll and Country Music halls of fame, were known for hits like “Wake Up, Little Susie”, “All I Have to Do Is Dream”, “Bird Dog”, “Cathy’s Clown”, “When Will I Be Loved” and “Bye Bye Love”.

“The Zmeds bring a genuine and youthful Everly Brothers spirit to the stage, recreating the organic intimacy ever-present in the harmonies created by Don and Phil Everly,” Firehouse officials said. “The Zmed Brothers skillfully cover The Everly Brothers and enhance performances with their own trademark style.”

The Everly Brothers Experience concert, which sold out in record time for its previous visit to Pleasanton, is set for 8 p.m. March 5. Tickets are available online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or by phone at 925-931-4848. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

## LV Opera staging Verdi classic ‘Otello’

Performances run first two weekends in March

By JEREMY WALSH

The Tri-Valley’s professional opera company, Livermore Valley Opera, is presenting the Giuseppe Verdi classic “Otello” next month as part of its 30th anniversary season.

An operatic adaptation of Shakespeare’s play “Othello”, Verdi’s work is a “tragic story of deceit, jealousy and rage ... that ranks among his most demanding, both vocally and dramatically,” according to LVO officials.

“‘Otello’ is arguably Verdi’s greatest operatic achievement,” LVO artistic director Erie Mills said in a statement. “It is an opera that involves a big chorus, which we wanted to showcase, and a dynamic cast. And, it’s LVO’s 30th anniversary season, something that deserves to be celebrated with a big production.”

To be staged at the Bankhead Theater, the LVO production will run on March 5-6 and March 12-13 as well as featuring an opening night dinner event and pre-opera educational talks.

Rising tenor Limmie Pulliam will make his LVO debut in the title role while soprano Elaine Alvarez

will also perform locally for the first time, as Desdemona, Otello’s wife. Playing Jago will be bass-baritone Phillip Skinner, making his return to the Bankhead stage.

Sung in Italian with English supertitles displayed, “Otello” will be under the stage direction of Candace Evans and accompanied by an onstage orchestra conducted by LVO music director Alexander Katsman.

The shows are set for March 5 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. and March 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore. Each performance will be preceded by a one-hour lecture presented by Liesl McPherrin, LVO’s new community outreach director.

The traditional Opening Night Dinner will again be held at Uncle’s Yu’s at the Vineyard, on March 5, with a welcome reception at 4 p.m. and dinner seating at 4:30 p.m. for the separate ticket price of \$95. The wine sponsor for the event is Longevity Wines.

Concert tickets run from \$20-\$95 for adults, including special new ticket pricing of \$20 for attendees aged 20 years old and younger, and \$40 for ages 21-40. To learn more, visit [www.LVOpera.com](http://www.LVOpera.com). ■



FIREHOUSE ARTS

## ‘Wrestling’ onstage, unscripted

Bay Area improv teams will converge on Pleasanton next week as Creatures of Impulse will host its “Improv Face-Off” with each show pro wrestling-themed. “Five performances, five different bouts, five reasons to see all five shows with an interactive format that gives the audience a chance to win prizes,” organizers said. Following a cash-only \$2 preview show on Wednesday, the full performances are set for 7:30 p.m. next Thursday through Saturday (Feb. 24-26) as well as a matinee at 2 p.m. that Saturday at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. General admission is \$10. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org) or call the box office at 925-931-4848 for tickets.

## Join our team!

### Seeking passionate, experienced multimedia news reporter

Embarcadero Media Group’s East Bay Division – which includes Pleasanton Weekly, [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com), [DanvilleSanRamon.com](http://DanvilleSanRamon.com) and [LivermoreVine.com](http://LivermoreVine.com) — is seeking an enthusiastic and talented staff news reporter with previous journalism experience working in print and digital news environments. The reporter will cover and edit stories ranging from meetings to breaking news to features for our award-winning print and digital publications.

At least three years of experience in news reporting is required.

Beyond excellent reporting and writing skills, a bachelor’s degree in journalism or a related field, previous experience in a newsroom setting, demonstrated news judgment and the ability to prioritize tasks and handle stress of daily deadlines and multiple priorities are required. The ability to deliver clean, vibrant copy while working to very tight deadlines is crucial.

Photography skills, social media and copy editing experience are a plus. The candidate must also be able to work the required hours, which include some night assignments and occasional weekend hours.

Bay Area candidates only; preference given to those with knowledge of the Tri-Valley. Reporters work remotely; however, there will be rare occasions when reporters will need to be in the field.

This is a full-time position that might require some field work. We offer benefits including medical/dental, a 401(k) plan, vacation and holiday pay.

Send a cover letter that details how your experience fits the needs of the position and includes your salary requirement. Also attach your resume and at least three clips/links that demonstrate your journalism and multimedia skills. Email the materials, with “Multimedia Journalist” in the subject line to Gina Channell Wilcox by 8 a.m. Feb. 28. No calls please. EOE.



5506 SUNOL BOULEVARD, SUITE 203 | PLEASANTON  
PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

# Democracy and journalism go hand in hand.

“ Wow, thanks for the insights into how truth is under assault. Keep up the good fight — you have my continued support. ”

— Wayne S.

## Pleasanton Weekly

JOIN AT: [PleasantonWeekly.com/join/](https://PleasantonWeekly.com/join/)

You can also subscribe for one year  
by mailing a check for \$144 to us at  
450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto 94306.

## SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM



### PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox, Ext. 1171

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172

#### Tri Valley Life Editor

Dolores Fox Ciardelli

#### Livermore Vine Editor

Cierra Bailey, Ext. 6528

#### Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

#### Staff Reporters

Julia Baum, Ext. 1176

Jeanita Lyman, Ext. 1179

#### Contributors

Tim Hunt, Dennis Miller,

Nancy Lewis, Chuck Deckert

### ART & PRODUCTION

#### Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

#### Designers

Linda Atilano, Kevin Legnon,

Paul Llewellyn, Mary Watanabe,

Doug Young

### ADVERTISING

#### Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

#### Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

### BUSINESS

#### Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

#### Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

### HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

#### Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

#### Circulation email: circulation@

PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840.

Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407.

The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to [www.PleasantonWeekly.com/subscribe](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/subscribe) to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

© 2022 by Embarcadero Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

# Flyer misinformation reinforces need to ask questions

There is a big difference between misinformation and disinformation. Misinformation includes honest mistakes; disinformation knowingly and intentionally misleads.

We didn't know which we were dealing with when we saw the flyer attached to a Town Square post last month.

The flyer inviting Pleasanton residents to a signature gathering event Jan. 22 announced a five-story commercial and residential building with no parking near Pleasanton's historic downtown was "coming soon" to the corner of Harrison Street at Old Bernal Avenue.

Not remembering this project being approved — which the "coming soon" certainly implied — we checked and found not only was the project not "coming soon," the application was still being reviewed. In fact, a few days later, city staff issued a letter to the applicant rejecting the application's request for ministerial approval under new state law.

People would obviously be worked into a frenzy if they believed construction of a project of this size was imminent — especially if, according to the flyer, this was "only the first project with more forced developments coming to Pleasanton neighborhoods in the near future!"

Since the ultimate goal was to gather signatures for a proposed statewide ballot initiative — colloquially called "Our Neighborhood Voices" campaign — to (again, according to the flyer) "take back local control of our neighborhoods and community," it looked a lot like disinformation.

Getting signatures needed to place a measure on a ballot with scare tactics and, thus, creating the aforementioned frenzy definitely seemed intentional.

The startling part was that the flyer had City Councilmember Julie Testa's personal email at

the bottom. We received the Town Square post (which was not done by Testa) a few days after the Jan. 18 council meeting, during which Testa asked for the city's endorsement of the proposed initiative.

Testa is the founder of the California Alliance of Local Electeds (CALE), a statewide alliance of local city officials that collaborates on proposed state legislation and other local and statewide issues, including maintaining local control. A laudable principle.

In August 2020, Testa wrote a Guest Opinion published in the Pleasanton Weekly about legislation eroding local laws and City Council authority that had passed in 2019 and a "package of bills that will do far greater harm is rushing through Sacramento under cover of COVID-19."

CALE sent Gov. Gavin Newsom and members of the State Legislature a "Declaration of a California Crisis of Governance." Because of the pandemic and social unrest during the summer of 2020, the group stated in the declaration, most Californians were unaware of these bills, which used "vague and unclear language, and asked the legislature and governor to "suspend all activity on land-use bills" for at least a year.

That didn't happen.

Changes in state law (more than 70 laws in the past few years) have indeed eroded and continue to threaten local control over land-use issues. That's frightening. Cities should be able to determine their own destinies.

We can deduce that because of her passion for the subject of local control and connection to CALE, Testa wants to get a large number of signatures in her own hometown. And the lack of endorsement by the city of Pleasanton must have stung.

But it doesn't lessen the fact that a misleading,

provocative message about a local project is not an appropriate means to an end.

That said, we don't believe Testa and her fellow local advocates intentionally misrepresented the status of the Harrison Street project. She said during the Jan. 18 meeting that "with certainty the law that the state passed with SB35 is telling us we cannot protect our city from a project that will be completely inappropriate for our downtown." She seemed to fully believe this project was going to be forced through because of the state.

Additionally, after the Jan. 26 staff letter to the applicant rejecting the application, the messaging on the next flyer was changed. We also acknowledge that just because this initial application was rejected does not mean the developer won't resubmit the project in some fashion for consideration again in the future.

Nevertheless, the first flyer's message should have been more accurate by explaining an application had been submitted, not that it was "coming soon."

The bottom line is a simple inquiry to verify the status of the project wasn't made and a panic-inducing message went out, seemingly from an elected official who would have been expected to know better.

Proponents of this initiative and signature gatherers need to provide upfront, honest and accurate communication.

The most important lesson here, though, is that voters should do their own research before signing anything.

As for the Our Neighborhood Voices proposed initiative, our editorial board — like the Pleasanton City Council — is not taking a position at this time. More needs to be known about the possible consequences should this make it to the ballot and voters approve it. ■

## LETTERS

### Train to the future

The High-Speed Rail Authority is accepting public comment for its 2022 draft plan. The idea of a train connecting San Francisco to Los Angeles was passed by California voters in 2008.

Work has begun, and it'll be completed in parts, like BART was. Each additional track creates lots of value, as citizens of Livermore can certainly appreciate, as we are still lacking our BART connection.

We feel cut off from San Francisco and other Bay Area cities. Traveling requires commuting in cars, and it doesn't take too long languishing in 580's congestion to make it obvious that form of transportation isn't the way forward.

Most of the reporting about the high-speed rail has been how it's over budget. Focusing that element is shortsighted. The biggest cost isn't the train's but the price of trying to live in the past.

I hope you'll email a public comment in favor of high-speed rail at [DraftBP2022@hsr.ca.gov](mailto:DraftBP2022@hsr.ca.gov).

—Alan Marling

### Gas prices

A recent letter mistakenly attributed higher gas prices to the presidency of Joe Biden. In actuality, higher gas prices are more likely resultant of neo-fascist Republicans who own/control the oil industry in this country and to the fact that this same industry is reading the writing on the wall: Gas guzzling vehicles are vestigial and will be replaced by electric vehicles (or other alternatively-fueled transportation) in the near future.

—Jon James

### Voter ID requirements support voter suppression

The letter in last week's Pleasanton Weekly re: voter ID requirements is a form of the misinformation and disinformation that is so pervasive today.

The letter draws a false equivalency between voter ID requirements and requirements such as driver's license and proof of vaccination. These other requirements address safety issues: that the bearer can operate a motor vehicle competently, and that they have received the necessary inoculations to lower the risk of spreading a virus that has killed over 900,000 Americans.

The rationale for voter ID requirements stated in the letter is "voting integrity." Since voter fraud is almost nonexistent in our elections, we already have voter integrity. An Associated Press review of potential cases of voter fraud in the six states disputed by President Trump found fewer than 475, which would have made no difference in the 2020

presidential election.

Voter ID requirements already exist with 35 states having laws requesting or requiring voters to show ID at the polls. The other 15 states and D.C. use other methods to verify voter identity. In California, where most voters vote by mail, the signature verification process is used to prevent fraud.

And there is a harsh reality of voter ID requirements that often goes unrecognized — such requirements discourage voting by the elderly and the poor who are less likely to own a car or possess a valid driver's license or other form of ID.

Voter ID requirements are more likely to result in voter suppression than voter integrity.

—Ward Kanowsky

## What's your opinion?

Send a Letter to the Editor to [Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com) or put your opinion on Town Square at [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com). Letters must be 250 words or less.



## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Cavaliers hosting largest all-girls rugby tournament on West Coast

Also: Furious finish to season propels Foothill to NCS girls' soccer berth

On the back of their very successful 2021 National 7s campaign, the Lady Cavaliers are at it again.

The biggest girls-only rugby tournament on the West Coast will be hosted by the Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby Club at Robertson Park in Livermore this Saturday (Feb. 19).

Despite two years of COVID-related disruptions and cancellations, the tournament almost didn't happen until the Cavaliers stepped in at short notice to organize the event.

The NorCal Rugby Kick Off Tournament (KoT) will see approximately 300 high school and middle school girls from rugby clubs across California converge for a full day of competition and camaraderie.

Talent scouts from USA Rugby's

Eagle Eye program will be paying keen attention to the upcoming KoT, as will college recruiters from rugby-playing D-1, D-2 and D-3 colleges such as Dartmouth, Princeton, Bowdoin and others — many of whom are attending in person.

The KoT event at Robertson Park will run from 9 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. This free to spectate event is a great way to experience rugby first hand.

#### Foothill girls' soccer

The Falcons finished the final five games of the regular season with three wins and two ties to clinch a North Coast Section playoff berth.

The run started Feb. 1 with a 6-0 win against Livermore. Six different

players scored goals for Foothill, with the opening goal in the first minute by Olivia Walinski. Senior defender Makenna Meyers scored one of the other goals on a penalty kick.

Rafaella Sapiz, Natalie Maciel, Kiana Tahmassebi and Sam Lim all got goals as well.

Two days later came Senior Night, and Foothill came away with a 2-0 win against Granada. Walinski and Sapiz got the goals, with goalie Sadie Brown turning in another shutout.

On Feb. 8, Foothill trailed 1-0 to Dougherty Valley but got a goal from Makenna Meyers to draw even. In the final minute Mackenzie Tierney got control off a corner kick and got the ball to Ava Ricker, who put it away for the go ahead goal. Brown was solid in the goal once again.

The last two games of the regular season came against Amador Valley,



LACEY MEYERS

The Foothill Falcons girls' soccer team used a strong stretch at the end of the season to earn a berth in the NCS playoffs.

and both ended in 0-0 draws.

Senior captain Sophia Minnite and Tahmassebi controlled possession/distribution in the middle while seniors Lim, Niki Kincaid and Meyers and sophomore Brianna Dowling held a strong defensive stance.

The standout player was Brown in goal with five amazing saves to get the two shutouts.

#### Amador girls' soccer

The Dons momentarily broke their streak of ties by whitewashing California 7-0 on Feb. 8.

Against Cal, senior midfielders Maddie Benson and Natalie O'Sullivan scored two goals each, and freshman striker Maylen Montoya assisted on three.

The rest of the week saw the ties rise again as the Dons tied Foothill twice with both 0-0 finals.

In the first game against Foothill the Dons had 15 shots, but none found the back of the net. Amador did have a goal called back when the assistant referee did not see the ball cross the line.

In the second game of the week, Foothill assumed a defensive

posture and was able to throttle the Amador attack.

The key to the three shutouts the Dons racked up was the stellar play of Brooke Walker and Ava Hofstedt. Outside backs Sydney Stimson, Audrey Ku, Kylie Beeby and Devyn Hasty played end-to-end, participating in the attack and dropping back to defend.

The players were a huge reason that only six goals were scored against Amador this season.

#### Foothill girls' basketball

The Falcons claimed a pair of wins over Dougherty Valley in the final week of the East Bay Athletic League season.

On Senior Night on Feb. 5, Foothill hung on for a 41-39 win. Shristi Rath had 11 points and Savannah Montini 10 for the Falcons. Foothill seniors Taylor Twamugabo and Vicky Thorbjornsen made key plays in the last 10 seconds to secure the win.

Two days later, Foothill got 21 points from Riley Young and nine from Grace Caraballo on the way to a 48-39 win. ■

## Employment

### Engineer II, QA

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Engineer II, QA in Pleasanton, CA to write & execute test plans, design, & develop test tools, debug & report code bugs & push quality upstream. Telecommuting allowed within U.S. Apply at [jobpostingtoday.com](http://jobpostingtoday.com) Ref: 83704.

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

## Memorial celebrates life of John Madden

'He's inside all of us and he will be for the rest of our lives'

Friends, family and Raiders fans celebrated the life of John Madden, former Emmy-winning broadcaster and Super Bowl-winning coach, Monday evening at RingCentral Coliseum in Oakland.



John Madden

Madden died unexpectedly on Dec. 28 at 85 years old. He grew up in Daly City and made his family home in Pleasanton for decades.

"He coaches angels now," said Henry Lawrence, a former player with the then-Oakland Raiders, who began the celebration with a song to remember Madden.

In Madden's head coaching career, he never had a losing season, compiling a 103-32-7 regular-season record, according to the NFL. He has the most wins of any Raiders' coach.

Madden coached the Raiders for 10 seasons and to a win in Super Bowl XI in 1977 over the Minnesota Vikings. The Raiders that season put together a 13-1 record.

Fred Biletnikoff, a former wide

receiver with the Raiders, said of Madden in a video played at the memorial, "He got more excited than the players."

Madden retired from coaching following the 1979 season. He was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame as a coach in 2006. As an analyst, Madden covered 11 Super Bowls until his final call in Super Bowl XLIII.

Madden earned a bachelor's degree in physical education and a master's degree in education in 1961 from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. During his time at Cal Poly, Madden played both offense and defense for the football team and as a catcher on the baseball team.

Madden played professional football with the Philadelphia Eagles. Then he coached Allan Hancock Junior College in Santa Maria, and then San Diego State University. He started coaching in the NFL with the Oakland Raiders in 1967.

Following his retirement from coaching, Madden joined CBS to broadcast football. His broadcasting became popular even with casual fans.

Madden nurtured a wildly popular video game Madden NFL, which "taught so many people about the game of football," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a recorded interview.

"There really wasn't a guy who loved football more than John Madden," Goodell said. "He was a great friend of football."

Goodell added that Madden also understood the business of football, such as how it was affecting fans and television.

"John believes in the town of Oakland," Madden's wife of 62 years Virginia Madden said to those attending and everyone watching. "Most of all he believed in the Raiders, the Oakland Raiders."

She added that Oakland needs a pro football team — the Raiders relocated to Las Vegas two seasons ago.

"I know he's up there," she said. "I know he's smiling down."

"He's still with us," the couple's son Mike Madden said at the celebration. "He's inside all of us and he will be for the rest of our lives." ■

—Keith Burbank, BCN

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Island One Martial Arts  
 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
 File No.: 585880  
 The following person doing business as: Island One Martial Arts, 4145 Fairlands Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Dennis J. Duarte, 4145 Fairlands Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by Dennis J. Duarte, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Dennis J. Duarte, Owner/Operator. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 25, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, February 11, 18, 25, March 4, 2022.)

### The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

- Public Hearing Notices Resolutions
- Bid Notices
- Notices of Petition to Administer Estate
- Lien Sale
- Trustee's Sale

**Deadline is Monday at noon.**

Call Gina Channell at 925-600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

## Music

**BOHEMIAN QUEEN AT THE BANKHEAD** In an all-new theatrical tribute to a legendary band, Bohemian Queen brings all the theatricality and vocal gymnastics of the late, great Queen front man to life in this rock spectacle. 8 p.m., Feb. 19. Tickets \$48-\$78. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**MARDI GRAS MAMBO 2022 AT THE BANKHEAD** The Dirty Dozen Brass Band are the pioneers of the modern New Orleans brass band movement recognized worldwide as an unstoppable musical machine. 3 p.m., Feb. 20. Tickets \$48-\$78. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**CREATURES OF IMPULSE: IMPROV FACE-OFF 2022** Watch as local Bay Area improv teams compete against Creatures of Impulse in this pro wrestling-themed run of shows. Feb. 23-26. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org). 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

**BANKHEAD PRESENTS STORM LARGE** Whether in a nightclub or on a concert stage, singer-songwriter Storm Large uses the thrilling power of her voice to connect with audiences on a deep and emotional level. 7:30 p.m., Feb. 24. Tickets \$20-\$98. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**DESTINY MUHAMMAD: JAZZ AND THE HARP ATTITUDE** Enjoy a virtual, musical and educational presentation by Destiny Muhammad, Harpist from the Hood, and learn about jazz music, the origins of the harp and the African American jazz harp legacy. 7 p.m., Feb. 24. Visit [livermorelibrary.net](http://livermorelibrary.net).

**INTERNATIONAL GUITAR NIGHT** The 22nd edition of International Guitar Night visits the Bankhead with a brand new lineup. 8 p.m., March 4. Tickets \$28-\$58. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**THE EVERLY BROTHERS EXPERIENCE** The Zmed brothers skillfully cover the Everly Brothers with a bit of their own trademark style mixed in. 8 p.m., March 5, at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Tickets \$28-\$38. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA PRESENTS VERDI'S OTELLO** The Tri-Valley's own professional opera company, the Livermore Valley Opera, celebrating its 30th anniversary season, will present Verdi's operatic masterpiece Otello. March 5-6 & 12-13 at the Bankhead Theater. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

## Talks

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS** Author and editor Sandra Tayler will speak to local writers, via zoom, about how to make time for creativity in a talk called "Structuring Life to Support Creativity". Reserve and pay online by Feb. 18 at:

[trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org). 2 p.m., Feb. 19.

**ABOLITIONIST MONOLOGUES: WHEN FREEDOM SPEAKS** Enjoy a virtual performance by the Encore Players of Livermore and the African American Body of Laboratory Employees (ABLE) as they present monologues inspired by past and present abolitionists. Visit [us02web.zoom.us/j/87227354737](http://us02web.zoom.us/j/87227354737). 7 p.m., Feb. 28.

**PLEASANTON TOASTMASTERS CLUB** Toastmasters International is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to helping members improve their communication and leadership skills. Join online every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm. Visit [pleasanton.toastmastersclubs.org](http://pleasanton.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Exhibits

**HOME SHOW AT ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS** See the newest in custom kitchens & baths, doors & windows, landscaping displays and more. Feb. 18-20. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

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

**ART & LITERATURE TOGETHER** Livermore Arts presents a collaboration with Cynthia Patton, Livermore Poet Laureate, to bring a pairing of art and literature to Livermore. Free and open to the public, Thursdays to Sundays 1-5 p.m. Through March 27. Bankhead Theater.

**PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE** Pleasanton Museum on Main and the Pleasanton Art League showcase 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](http://museumonmain.org).

## Outdoor Rec

**NATURE WALK AT SYCAMORE GROVE** Join Ranger Vickie and take a mile walk over a smooth unpaved road to look for winter wildlife. 2 p.m., Feb. 20. Call 925-960-2400.

**SUNSET HIKE TO CATTAIL POND** Join Ranger Danny for a 3-mile long stroll up to Cattail Pond at Sycamore Grove to watch the sunset and see beautiful views. 5:30 p.m., Feb. 20. 1051 Wetmore Road. RSVP to 925-960-2400.

**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](http://ebparks.org/trails-challenge).

## Family

**CLASSIC FILM MUSICALS AT THE BANKHEAD** Film Musicals continue with "The Band Wagon", starring Fred Astaire and Cyd Charisse. 7 p.m., Feb. 23. Tickets \$5. 2400 1st St., Livermore.

**TASTE TRI-VALLEY RESTAURANT WEEK** Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week highlights the diverse culinary scene of our region over the span of 10 delicious days in the form of special foodie events, unique menu offerings and exclusive deals to top restaurants, wineries and breweries in the Tri-Valley. Feb. 18-27. Visit [visitrivalley.com/restaurantweek](http://visitrivalley.com/restaurantweek).

**2022 DIESEL TRAIN RIDES** See Niles Canyon in all of its green winter splendor, departing from the Sunol Depot. Tickets \$15-\$25. 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., Feb. 19-20; March 12-13 and 19-20, April 9-10 and 16-17. Visit [ncry.org](http://ncry.org).

## Support

**POP-UP CARE TENT AT PLEASANTON LIBRARY** Weekly CityServe Pop-Up Tents meet with those in need to coordinate care and connect to local resources. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Feb. 22. 400 Old Bernal Ave.

**CONNECTION RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS** The NAMI Tri-Valley Connection Recovery Support Group will be held via zoom, 7:15-8:45 p.m., Feb. 23. Visit [nami-trivalley.org](http://nami-trivalley.org).

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP** Join this online support community to connect with others experiencing this disease to provide support and encouragement. Visit [alz.org](http://alz.org) or call 1-800-272-3900.

**HOT MEALS & GROCERIES FREE OF CHARGE** Prepared by Open Heart Kitchen, 1-3 p.m., Monday-Friday, drive- or walk-thru only. 911 Loyola Way, Livermore.

**FREE SHOWER & LAUNDRY SERVICES** Monday-Wednesday, 12-4 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore.

## Veterans

**MILITARY VETERANS VA MOBILE MEDICAL TEAM** Meet the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Team to review health care benefits, register to VA services and receive care or a referral from medical staff. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Feb. 28. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

## Students

**TEEN JOB & CAREER FAIR** This free event provides a wide range of topics for potential teen

## PET OF THE WEEK



TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE

### Brody and Chip

These adorable boys are living in the same foster home where they play together and entertain themselves with toys. They are house- and crate-trained, walk on a leash, ride well in the car, and take treats nicely with a soft mouth. The boys arrived at the shelter very frightened and unsocialized. They are becoming more confident and trusting and will need a forever home that is patient and will continue to help them adjust. Brody and Chip can be adopted separately. They are neutered, microchipped and current on vaccines. Visit [www.tv-ar.org](http://www.tv-ar.org).

employees. Meet with employers, explore career options, identify personal strengths, attend practice interview sessions, learn resume writing and much more. Visit [SRTeen.org](http://SRTeen.org) or call 925-973-3326. 12-3 p.m., March 5. Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd.

**MASTER CLASS IN ACTING AND PLAYWRITING** Applications are being accepted for high school students for the spring Student Days at Tao House. Student Days is a high schooler's chance to study and learn under the guidance of professionals in the arts. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., March 12 and 13. Free and in-person. Visit [eugeneoneill.org/event](http://eugeneoneill.org/event).

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

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS' HIGH SCHOOL WRITING CONTEST** Tri-Valley Writers presents "My Story, My Vision", the group's annual writing contest for local-area students grades 9-12 in the Tri-Valley (Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville). Cash awards for winners and a one-year membership in Tri-Valley Writers. Submissions Feb. 13-April 3. Visit [trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org).

**PAWS TO READ** The popular children's reading program, Paws to Read, is back at the Pleasanton Library. Children entering 1st through 5th grade can read one-on-one with Valley Humane Society's Canine Comfort Teams. To register call 925-931-3400, ext. 3. 7-7:35 p.m., Feb. 22.

**LVJUSD SPELLING BEE** Join the fun and watch Livermore middle school students as they spell their way to winning top honors at the 2022 LVJUSD Middle

School Spelling Bee District Finals. 3-5 p.m., Feb. 23. Visit [livermoreschools.org](http://livermoreschools.org).

## Seniors

**AARP TAX ASSISTANCE** AARP sponsored tax assistance returns to the Pleasanton Senior Center, Mondays and Fridays, now until April 15. To make an appointment, call the Senior Center at 925-931-5365.

**SENIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM OF THE TRI-VALLEY** Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley Transportation Department can assist with rides. Call the VAST transportation department at 925-931-5387.

**VIRTUAL SMART PHONE TRAINING** Learn how to operate the basic functions of a smartphone, send text messages, make text larger or connect Bluetooth devices. This free, two-part online training is offered multiple times each month. Call 510-207-8609 or e mail: [clin@ddtp.org](mailto:clin@ddtp.org).

**PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY USERS GROUP** Tech discussions, lectures and demonstrations in person and hybrid, the fourth Tuesday of the month. If interested in joining email [pleaseniorg@gmail.com](mailto:pleaseniorg@gmail.com). Feb. 24.

**WOODWORKING AT THE PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER** Discover the joy of woodworking, wood carving or wood turning and use state-of-the-art equipment to make a unique project. Call 925-931-5365.

## Government

**PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Feb. 23. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING** The Pleasanton City Council Special Meeting is via teleconference, 7 p.m., Feb. 24. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Dec. 20-23 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and Jan. 10-14 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 8008 Canyon Creek Circle** A. Sareshwala to S. & S. Shamid for \$1,645,000
- 5979 Corte Arboles** A. Boparal to R. & V. Jandhyala for \$1,555,000
- 7754 Creekside Drive** Koul Family Trust to Y. & S. Khurana for \$1,175,000
- 4087 Ghiotti Court** A. Zysk to T. & L. Yau for \$780,000
- 6752 Melody Court** Ziegler Family Trust to S. & M. Glickman for \$1,000,000
- 6745 Menlo Court** J. Xu to X. Sun for \$1,550,000
- 2954 Moreno Avenue** J. Zhang to S. & P. Bhat for \$1,575,000
- 1616 Orchard Way** Fox Family Trust to Jain Family Trust for \$1,580,000
- 6950 Valley Trails Drive** Ponderosa Homes to S. & V. Radhakrishnan for \$2,125,000

### Livermore

- 145 Barber Street** Dillard Family Trust to T. & M. Kell for \$960,000
- 361 Basswood Common #11** J. Solana to A. Bhaid for \$870,000
- 836 Bellflower Street** R. Werner to J. & S. Porwal for \$725,000
- 1077 Camelia Drive** Mcdowell Living Trust to C. & G. Benigno for \$922,000
- 185 Campo Court** D. & B. Ito to R. & A. Conway for \$2,400,000
- 1826 Carnation Circle** J. & T. Halloran to N. Martinez for \$910,000

- 902 El Rancho Drive** W. Kowalsky to Remi LLC for \$675,000
- 2734 Elston Street** Conway Living Trust to Condon Family Trust for \$1,600,000
- 956 Florence Road** Y. Wu to M. & M. Mittal for \$1,400,000
- 6170 Forget Me Not** J. Taisch to G. Yi for \$687,000
- 663 Jensen Street** R. Magdalena to R. & K. Vasudevan for \$980,000
- 1861 Linden Street** Foreverhome Properties LLC to Y. & J. Shin for \$990,000
- 504 Misty Lane** M. & B. Wang to A. & V. Saxena for \$1,244,000
- 1372 Olivina Avenue** M. Renquist to P. Sok for \$460,000
- 745 Olivina Avenue** V. Anandarajah to V. Kotu for \$874,000
- 580 Rhea Way** Counts Family Trust to Y. & R. Gilbert for \$2,400,000
- 524 Rincon Avenue** J. & R. Miu to W. & W. Shen for \$840,000
- 776 Travis Circle** M. & D. Griffith to H. & S. Kommuru for \$2,250,000

### Dublin

- 2709 Alliston Loop** A. Undurti to V. & N. Venkata for \$1,586,000
- 5527 Apex Drive** Y. & D. Huang to E. & L. Ibarria for \$920,000

Source: California REsource

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

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (Dec. 20-23)

**Total sales reported:** 9  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$780,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,125,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,555,000

### Livermore (Dec. 20-23)

**Total sales reported:** 18  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$460,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,400,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$941,000

### Dublin (Dec. 20-23)

**Total sales reported:** 13  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$363,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$2,425,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,280,500

### Sunol (Dec. 20-23)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,550,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,550,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,550,000

### San Ramon (Jan. 10-14)

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$635,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,396,500  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,850,000

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### ATHERTON

- 327 Stockbridge Avenue** **\$12,988,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/8BA  
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000
- 303 Atherton Avenue** **\$19,988,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 7BD/8.5BA  
DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

### LOS ALTOS

- 584 Cuesta Drive** **\$2,988,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 3BD/2BA  
DeLeon Repka 650-900-7000

### MOUNTAIN VIEW

- 1807 Walnut Drive** **\$2,498,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/3BA  
DeLeon Realty 650-963-5062

### PLEASANTON

- 1352 Harvest Road** **\$1,895,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 4BD/3BA  
Keller William Tri Valley Realty 925-413-6544
- 7060 Via Quito** **Call for price**  
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 4BD/3BA  
Arrive Real Estate Group 925-202-9026

### SAN CARLOS

- 61 Kenton Avenue** **\$1,748,000**  
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 3BD/2BA  
DeLeon Realty 650-397-8988

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

# JUST LISTED IN DEL PRADO



## 7060 Via Quito

Welcome to this gorgeous home in the desirable Del Prado neighborhood. This 4 bedroom, 3 bath beauty has so much to offer. A newly renovated gourmet kitchen and spacious, private yard. THIS HOME IS A MUST SEE!!!

Open House Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

Looking to buy or sell, let's connect!



**KATIE MOË**  
 Founding Partner | Realtor  
 925.216.9083 | DRE #01507863  
[katie@arriveregroup.com](mailto:katie@arriveregroup.com)



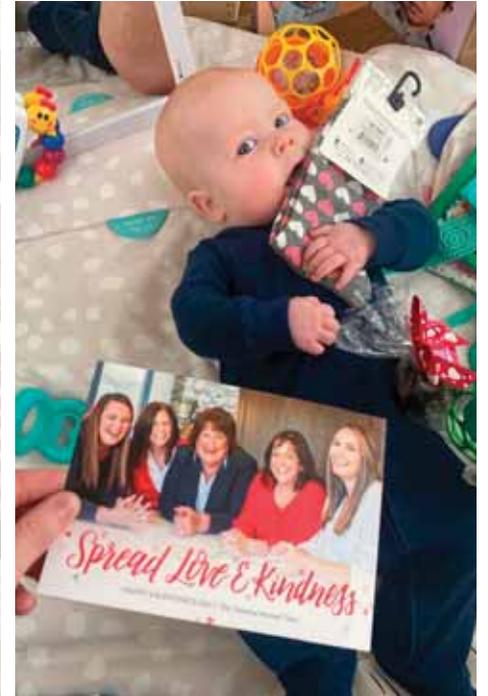
**JENNY SHIBLAQ**  
 REALTOR®  
 925.202.9026 • DRE #02049561  
[jenny@arriveregroup.com](mailto:jenny@arriveregroup.com)



# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

## Spreading Love With Our Pleasanton Locals!



This Valentine's Day we showered our clients with LOVE with some goodies from Gourmet Works and Clover Creek Gifts, two of our favorite local businesses! We love to support our Pleasanton Locals any chance that we get. We had an amazing day celebrating all of the love in our life... Our pets, family, friends, and CLIENTS. We love you!

## Current Listings!



1352 Harvest Road, Pleasanton | \$1,895,000  
4 Beds | 3 Baths | 2,146 sqft



2756 Curry Street, Pleasanton | \$1,499,000  
3 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 1,820 sqft

**Join Us At Our Open House!**

2/18 from 10am-1pm, 2/19 & 2/20 from 1-4pm



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



THE  
**BLAISE LOFLAND**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP  
CONNECTING PEOPLE & PROPERTY



Blaise Lofland



Kelly McKaig



Desiree Fanucchi



Ashley Kenitzer

925.846.6500

blaiselofland.com

blaise@blaiselofland.com

DRE 00882113

Equal Housing Opportunity, Equal Housing Lender



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

**PLEASANTON VALLEY**



**SOLD**

**1546 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 2 BA | 1,790 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,460,000  
(REPRESENTED BUYERS)**

**STONERIDGE**



**SOLD**

**7508 FLAGSTONE DRIVE, PLEASANTON**

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,877 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,760,000**

**STONERIDGE**



**SOLD**

**4905 HILLCREST WAY, PLEASANTON**

4 BS | 3 BA | 2,759 SF

**SOLD FOR \$2,450,000  
(REPRESENTED BUYER)**

**ROSE PARK**



**SOLD**

**1564 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,900 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,350,000**

**IRONWOOD**



**SOLD**

**1428 BRIONES LANE, PLEASANTON**

5 BD | 4.5 BA | 3,900 SF

**SOLD FOR \$3,025,000  
(REPRESENTED BUYER)**

**PLEASANTON OAK PARK**



**SOLD**

**325 LONE OAK DRIVE, PLEASANTON**

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,600 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,260,000**

**ROSE PARK**



**SOLD**

**1558 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,900 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,280,000**

**VINTAGE HILLS**



**SOLD**

**529 MALBEC COURT, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,050 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,560,000**

**VINTAGE HILLS**



**SOLD**

**802 CRELLIN ROAD, PLEASANTON**

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,942 SF

**SOLD FOR \$1,675,000**

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



# ARMARIO HOMES

TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY

## TOP 10 REAL ESTATE EXPERTS



**1. DeAnna Armario** founded the award-winning **Armario Homes Team**, specializing in Luxury Real Estate. Her unmatched community and client devotion have helped over 900 families find their forever homes. Her team was named a Leading 100 Team in the Bay Area by always putting their client's success first. In 2021, her team closed over \$112M in sales and received awards, including the Top 1% Team Elite NCHR out of over 6,000 agents in the Bay Area.



### FEATURED IN USA TODAY: Top 10 Real Estate Experts to Follow in 2022

The article names DeAnna Armario at the top of their list of 10 Agents across the country. DeAnna is highlighted for her devotion to community and numerous awards received in 2021.



COMING SOON | CALL FOR PRICING  
560 E ANGELA STREET, PLEASANTON



JUST LISTED | OFFERED AT \$1,399,000  
39722 PLUMAS WAY, FREMONT



PENDING | LISTED AT \$3,750,000  
216 MILL CREEK ROAD, FREMONT



PENDING | LISTED AT \$1,595,000  
440 SANDSTONE DRIVE, FREMONT



PENDING | LISTED AT \$1,699,000  
5652 AMBERGLEN STREET, DUBLIN



SOLD \$2,700,000  
44 GOLF ROAD, CASTLEWOOD, PLEASANTON



A Top 100 Team  
in the Bay Area



Best Real Estate  
Agents in Pleasanton



Top 1% TEAM  
KW Nor-Cal

## Considering Selling?

Call our Team today for a  
**FREE** home valuation : (925) 302-2626

### THE ARMARIO HOMES ADVANTAGE

900+  
Families  
Assisted

\$109M  
Closed Sales  
2021

35 Years  
Local  
Experience

#1 In Real  
Estate:  
Our Clients



DeAnna Armario | 925.694.0806  
Brianna Armario | 925.694.0802  
DRE# 01363180 | DRE# 01967027  
Broker DRE# 02065804

Call our Team for unparalleled Real Estate services: (925) 302-2626

[www.ArmarioHomes.com](http://www.ArmarioHomes.com)



# Beyond Full Service A Concierge Approach to Real Estate

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



COMING SOON

2102 Eilene Drive  
2ba | 2ba, 1,314+ | -sq.ft on a 3,211+ | -sq.ft lot  
LISTED AT \$1,299,000



COMING SOON

4137 Cristobal Way, Pleasanton  
4bd/2ba | 1,368+/- sq.ft | 6,600+/- sq.ft lot  
CALL FOR DETAILS



PENDING WITH 18 OFFERS

2384 Willet Way, Pleasanton  
5bd/3ba | 2,538+/- sq.ft | 7,592+/- sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,879,000



PENDING WITH 14 OFFERS

1612 Saint David Drive, Danville  
3bd/2ba | 1,626+/- sq.ft | 8,720+/- sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,350,000



SOLD WITH 16 OFFERS \$301K OVER ASKING

1803 Sinclair Drive, Pleasanton  
2bd/2ba | 1,056+/- sq.ft | 4,991+/- sq.ft lot  
OFFERED AT \$1,049,000



SOLD BEFORE GOING TO MARKET

5860 Corte Margarita, Pleasanton  
4bd/3ba | 2,628+/- sq.ft | 9,720+/- sq.ft lot  
SOLD FOR \$2,200,000 - \$251K OVER ASKING



SOLD BEFORE GOING TO MARKET

1730 Baywood Court, Pleasanton  
4bd/2ba | 2,087+/- sq.ft | 6,899+/- sq.ft lot  
SOLD FOR \$1,640,000



SOLD \$251K OVER ASKING WITH 13 OFFER

2310 Meadowlark Drive, Pleasanton  
4bd/2ba | 2,033+/- sq.ft | 5,040+/- sq.ft lot  
SOLD FOR \$1,850,000



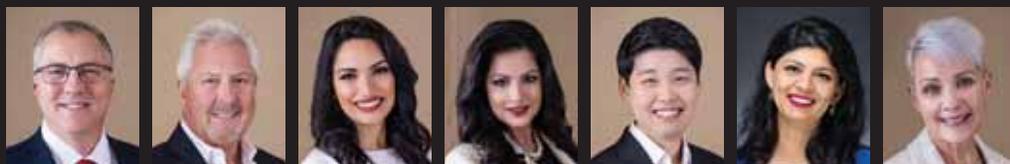
SOLD \$216K OVER ASKING WITH 6 OFFERS

5460 Greenfield Way, Pleasanton  
4bd/2ba | 1,882+/- sq.ft | 7,168+/- sq.ft lot  
SOLD FOR \$1,815,000



We recently sold our home in Pleasanton Valley with the help of Tim McGuire and his team. I cannot overstate how professional and effective they were. Everything was executed exactly as planned, and they provided support and services that went well beyond what we could have reasonably expected. I can't imagine a better experience with anyone else, we were able to get top value for our home, and the transaction was completed in a timely and frictionless manner. Tim's knowledge of the local market is unparalleled, and his pricing and negotiating strategies resulted in multiple offers that were viable and compelling. The partnership we were able to develop with Tim and his team resulted in a wonderful outcome for all concerned, and we are very grateful to have had Tim as our guide and facilitator to navigate our way through the process.

— Klaus & Kathy Hoffman, Pleasanton



Tim McGuire Broker DRE 01349446 | Mark James Realtor® DRE 00697341 | Eva Tia Realtor® DRE 02072764 | Lori Olson Realtor® DRE 02004247 | Aiden Kim Realtor® DRE 01983236 | Upasna Gupta Realtor® DRE 01953773 | Karen Carmichael Client Services



View our website  
Scan with your smartphone camera

www.timmcguireteam.com  
925.462.SOLD (7653)

Facebook /timmcguireteam | Instagram @owntrivalley | LinkedIn /in/owntrivalley



Compass is the brand name used for services provided by one or more of the Compass group of subsidiary companies. Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01079009. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.