

# Pleasanton Weekly

Save the Hill  
wins appeal

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## Firehouse hosts Holocaust memorial exhibit

'I wanted it to be educational  
and end with a message  
of hope and survival'

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# WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

## What is one spot worth?

Much of public service (and professional work and personal life, for that matter) is spent balancing conflicting priorities.

The Pleasanton City Council faced yet another interesting case study down that road last month, a debate centered on a new housing unit and coveted downtown parking.

Property owner Wassim Naguib sought city permission to build a new two-story house behind the existing dental office building at the front of his property at 218 Ray St., but the Planning Commission majority denied his design review application because he wanted to pay an in-lieu fee to the city in exchange for not offering an additional parking space onsite for the commercial use required by the municipal code.

So he appealed.

Naguib's project calls for building on part of the private parking lot a new two-story house at 1,069 square feet along with a two-vehicle carport for the residence.

The proposal complies with relevant city development standards in its current zone for things like setbacks, number of units, no net loss of commercial space, architectural compatibility, building height and floor-area ratio — all except parking.

City code requires 12 parking spaces for the redevelopment, 10 for the Pleasanton Dublin Dental Center and two for the new house. (It's actually 9.72 required by the city's calculation methodology, thus rounded up.) But the construction plan would leave only nine spots for the dental lot.

The applicant did propose adding a car lift to park a third vehicle for the house, but the problem is the parking count for the commercial use — the logic being city planners would not want a dentist customer or employee taking up a public spot.

City rules give discretion to allow alternatives in some situations, such as parking variances, agreements with nearby lots and in-lieu fee. In this case, Naguib wanted to pay nearly \$22,000 to the city, instead building that 10th spot, to be used for future public parking projects.

The Planning Commission denied the application in a 3-2 vote on Jan. 12, primarily because of the majority's opposition to the in-lieu parking fee in favor of prioritizing the required parking onsite.

City staff actually disagreed, and recommended the council uphold Naguib's appeal and approve the project as proposed.

This issue is a flashpoint in California these days. Housing advocates balk at parking as a deciding barrier to new residences, but business owners and customers in a commercial area like downtown Pleasanton push to protect public parking.

For many in downtown, the loss of even one parking spot on a recurring or permanent basis should be avoided at all costs.

I'm a stickler for the rules, in general. What is the point of spending all of the time crafting regulations and policies if you are just not going to follow them? That said, I also recognize the real-world value for local governments of variances or allowances acceptable under policy or practice on a case-by-case basis.

"It was really hard for me to believe that it's only 1,000 square feet, almost ... and all the deficiency was a half parking spot," Naguib told the council on March 1. "Our immediate neighbors are in support of the project."

Councilmember Jack Balch was a clear supporter of the project, in part for its approach to the parking.

"The concept that he is a 'half spot' short and buying a full in-lieu if we let him, but he's got the bonus (car lift spot), I think the impacts are going to be pretty minimal. And we get to determine if this is a solution for our downtown parking as well," Balch said.

Councilmember Julie Testa called it "a lovely project" but voiced deeper concern about downtown parking.

"Our priority for that area has to be to protect the retail vibrancy, and to add additional parking burden in our downtown that is already parking-burdened, doesn't feel appropriate," she said.

In the end, the council tried to create a balance from the dais, unanimously upholding the appeal and approving the project — but with a few new conditions.

They required the owner to secure an agreement with a nearby, non-residential property (within 300 feet) for a commercial spot. They also stipulated that the residential carport must be kept clear of storage so two cars can always park there, and they said the car lift is optional. ■

## About the Cover

Yisrael Meir (Lulek) Lau is held by fellow Buchenwald survivor, Elizar Schiff, as they arrive in Palestine on July 15, 1945. Painted in 2017, this acrylic-on-canvas piece by Larry Lagin is based on Photo No. NKH403010 of the Central Zionist Archives of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and is part of the Holocaust remembrance exhibit at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Photo by Larry Lagin. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

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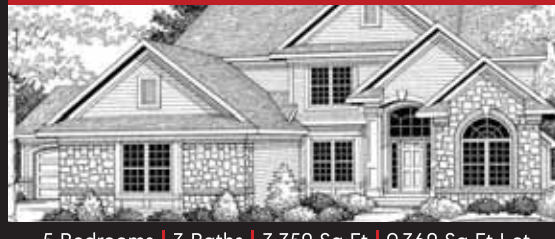
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## Are you planning to get another COVID vaccine/booster any time soon?



**Selena Bustamante**  
*Business owner*

I'm not actually. I've already had and recovered from COVID so I feel pretty protected by my own natural immunities and the COVID shots I've already received. Plus, I feel like things are starting to get back to "normal," making a booster unnecessary.



**Sherrie Henderson**  
*Brewtender*

I absolutely am. I feel it's my obligation to do all that I can to protect the vulnerable people in our population, like the elderly and those with compromised immune systems.



**Melvin Andrews**  
*Retired firefighter*

Oh yes, as quickly as I can. Every time I become eligible for a vaccine or a booster, I'm eager to get it. Because I want to live as long and as well as I possibly can.



**Eric Somers**  
*Comedian*

Yes, for sure, because I've never gotten COVID and want to be sure I don't get it, or at least that I don't get very sick if I do get it. Most of the vaccinated people I know who've caught COVID have had only mild symptoms.



**Kaitlin Merritt**  
*Nursing student*

I don't actually even have a choice. I am required to get boosted once every few months because I'm a nursing student. It's mandatory for me.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

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## DIGEST

### Teen poet laureate

The city of Pleasanton is seeking high school juniors and seniors with writing experience and a desire to promote community literary arts while inspiring others to apply for the teen poet laureate position for the 2022-23 academic year.

"The teen poet laureate helps foster community appreciation for poetry and contributes to related activities in and around the city including composition, reading, recitation and listening to poetry," city officials said.

The selected teenager will bring "fun and creativity to various City of Pleasanton events during the year and organize and host additional outreach events with support from the city's Library and Recreation Department staff," they added.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Wednesday (April 13) at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. To learn more, visit [www.firehousearts.org/teenpoet](http://www.firehousearts.org/teenpoet).

### ACE 10-Trip Pass

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission this week launched a new 10-Trip Pass fare concept for users of the Altamont Corridor Express rail system who may have changing commute patterns as a result of the pandemic.

"Ideal for workers who need to get to their workplaces less frequently than the traditional daily commute, the 10-Trip provides the convenience of 10 one-way rides that passengers can use whenever they need to travel," commission officials said Monday.

The 10-Trip Pass can be purchased in advance on the ACE Rail mTickets App or at an ACE station, including those in Pleasanton and Livermore.

### County arts awards

The Alameda County Arts Commission is collecting nominations through May 20 for its 2022 Alameda County Arts Leadership Awards.

One recipient will be recognized from each of the county's five supervisorial districts for their outstanding achievements and contributions impacting the arts community and all residents at large.

"Nominees must be residents of Alameda County and involved in an arts discipline including, but not limited to, music, dance, visual art, literature, theater, film and video, traditional craft and folk art and new media," officials said. "Nominees must be affiliated with an Alameda County arts organization through their role as an artist, staff person, board member, teacher, volunteer, donor, supporter, advocate, etc."

For nomination details, go to [acgov.org/arts/awards](http://acgov.org/arts/awards). ■

## Testa named as new fire chief of Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

### Longtime deputy ascends to head role as LPFD promotes from within

By CIERRA BAILEY

Longtime deputy fire chief Joe Testa has taken on the role of fire chief for the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department effective this week, according to a joint statement from the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton.

Following the retirement of former chief Jeff Peters nearly a year ago, LPFD has completed its recruitment process and selected

his permanent successor.

"It is truly the greatest honor of my career to have the opportunity to lead the men and women of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD)," Testa told the Weekly in an email after



Joe Testa

his promotion was announced last Friday.

"I look forward to working with the members of the LPFD, its partner cities and our community to ensure that we continue to deliver the best services possible. This will include continued work on our strategic plan, which was launched last year and takes a deep look into ways we can evolve as an organization," he added.

In their statement, officials from both cities praised Testa's experience and skills, including his leadership and expertise in fire command.

"Chief Testa has a proven track record working with our two cities. He is a talented leader who is invested in our communities and whose commitment to excellence

See **TESTA** on Page 7



JOE DWORETZKY/BCN FOUNDATION

A handmade poster was pasted last week to the sign announcing the developer's application to develop 44 residences on a 31-acre parcel adjoining the Garaventa Wetlands Preserve in Livermore.

## Save the Hill wins appeal

### Court reverses Livermore council's approval of Garaventa Hills housing project

By JOE DWORETZKY / BCN FOUNDATION

The website of developer Lafferty Communities Inc. contains a page that features "Garaventa Hills," a prospective residential development in Livermore.

In large type, the page it says, "Coming Soon."

The page has used those exact same words for more than five years, and a decision Wednesday from the state Court of Appeals for the First Appellate District suggests that Garaventa Hills won't be coming soon, and may never come at all.

That is great news for Bianca Covarelli, a single mom from

Livermore, who has been fighting to "Save the Hill" since 2011 when Lafferty filed the initial application to develop the 31-acre site in the Garaventa Hills.

The undeveloped parcel adjoins the 24-acre Garaventa Wetlands Preserve, an environmentally sensitive area. The initial application contemplated 76 homes, a road system and a bridge over Altamont Creek, which crosses the parcel.

Covarelli describes herself as non-political and non-litigious and it "shocks" her how deeply she devoted herself to the fight.

She says, "Something bigger than myself started coming

through and taking over, and that's a fact. I can feel it. It was just this purposeful passion."

She did her research and learned about the biodiversity of the open space wildlife corridor in which the parcel was located.

She learned that the development site and the preserve are habitats for various "special status species" that are given protection under the Endangered Species laws, including the California red-legged frog, the vernal pool fairy shrimp, and the San Joaquin kit fox.

She learned of the significance

See **SAVE THE HILL** on Page 11

## Zone 7 sees reduction in water from state

### Officials implore users to heed 15% local conservation mandate

By SHIRI MARWAHA

A dry beginning to 2022 has prompted the California Department of Water Resources to restrict the State Water Project allocation to suppliers down to 5% a sizable cutback from the previous 15%, according to the Zone 7 Water Agency.

A third consecutive year of drought, with a below average snowpack and low reservoir levels, is the trigger for the mandate from the state.

The State Water Project announcement and the revised allocation significantly limits the amount of new water supply available to the Tri-Valley, as Zone 7 imports approximately 70% of its total water supply from the state. The agency urged all water users in its service area to follow the 15% mandatory conservation requirement in effect locally.

"Outdoor water use is the biggest lever we have to use in weathering this drought. When the rain didn't come and the temperatures rose, people began turning on their outdoor irrigation and that was clearly reflected in the data we have," Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor said in a statement last week. "We need every single resident and business to take a closer look at their irrigation practices and look for ways

See **ZONE 7** on Page 7

# All-abilities playground opens at PUSD's inclusive preschool

'Kiddos are super excited' — students, parents, staff celebrate at ribbon-cutting

BY SHIRI MARWAHA

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to inaugurate the new playground at IPAL (Inclusive Play and Learn) Preschool last week in the Pleasanton Unified School District.

The all-abilities facility has been open since February but it was officially welcomed March 28, generating excitement among school children, parents and community members at the Harvest Park Preschool Center.

"Kiddos are super excited about the playground and the parents have all been excited," said Erin Doff, a teacher at the school. "We have visitors who come to take a look at the playground, and they use all aspects of it, which is really important and really what we wanted. So glad to see that come to life."

School teachers at IPAL participated to a great extent to bring the all-abilities park into reality.

"The teachers here have worked really hard to really get this playground going by participating in the grant and doing whatever is necessary to really help support this," Doff said.

The staff and teachers at the school go above and beyond for the success of this structure. "Doing whatever is necessary to really help support this classroom, playground being built, really looking at every detail, so that all students can access it," Doff said.

It is not just a modification but a completely new playground, according to Doff.

Careful thought went into the material used for the construction of the area, which includes features like ramps, bumpy-rocky area and fake turf among other attractions.

"They can walk to a glider where they can sit down and glide with their friends and have peer interactions with their friends. We have a



sensory path that goes around the whole playground, or actually the whole park area, so that kiddos of all abilities can walk around the whole playground area," Doff said.

Steel pipes are used to protect children wearing the cochlear implants.

"We put that in because kiddos with cochlear implants don't receive static shock on those versus the plastic slide," Doff said.

The hard work of everyone at school paid off with the playground, and the preschool boasts of inclusivity both inside the classroom and outside on the playground.

"The inclusiveness of the playground really helps support our program that we have in our classrooms, now that inclusivity is followed through to the outside of our program," Doff said.

The IPAL Preschool at Harvest Park is a first-of-its-kind preschool in the area that is geared toward students of all ability levels.

The preschool caters to all kids



COURTESY OF PUSD

The Pleasanton Unified School District community came together on March 28 to celebrate the ceremonial opening of the new all-abilities playground at the IPAL Preschool at Harvest Park.

between 3 to 5 years old. Since its establishment, the school has propagated inclusivity by encouraging all students to learn together in a developmentally appropriate educational setting.

Preschoolers here are taught to

build friendships in a real-world classroom environment. Additionally, they are taught to solve problems, build relationships, early academic skills, classroom readiness skills and respect for others, officials said. ■

## New BART districts shift portion of San Ramon

Board-approved election map moves southern part of city into District 5 with Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore

BY JEANITA LYMAN

Some San Ramon voters in the southern parts of the city will see a shift in their rail transit district in the next election, leading the nearest BART station in their home district to switch from Walnut Creek to Dublin-Pleasanton or West Dublin-Pleasanton.

The BART Board of Directors voted last month to approve map "E-2," finalizing new boundaries for the agency's nine districts in the wake of the latest census data from 2020.

The current BART district lines see a southern border that runs along the Contra Costa and Alameda county lines, placing all of the San Ramon Valley squarely in District 1, with portions of the Tri-Valley south of San Ramon

resting in District 5.

The new map shifts the line between districts 1 and 5, with boundaries instead roughly aligning with Bollinger Canyon Road.

District 1 represents the Concord, Lafayette, Pleasant Hill-Contra Costa Centre and Walnut Creek stations, while District 5 consists of Dublin-Pleasanton, West Dublin-Pleasanton, Castro Valley and Hayward. This won't change under the new maps.

However, what will change is that some San Ramon residents will now be in a BART district consisting entirely of stations in Alameda County, rather than Contra Costa County, as the current district boundaries dictate.

Currently, District 1 is represented

by Debora Allen, with District 5 being represented by John McPartland. Terms for both directors are set to be up in 2024, with Tri-Valley voters being set to vote on those seats according to the new district boundaries in that election.

A major factor in the board's decision on new district boundaries, Allen said, was what stations riders in each represented municipality generally used. This was at play in particular in the decision behind the new district lines in the San Ramon Valley.

"What we tried to apply was a concept of 'where do BART riders go,' and from my perspective, San Ramon riders typically use the Dublin-Pleasanton stations," Allen said. "So it makes more sense that

the BART director that has primary jurisdictions primarily represents that area."

Allen is currently in the running for the Contra Costa County supervisor's seat in District 4 in this June's election, which is currently held by Karen Mitchoff, who is not seeking re-election.

Allen told the Weekly that while she's not sure whether she would be required to vacate her BART seat if her bid for supervisor is successful, she would plan to do so.

If Allen were to vacate her BART seat, the new director appointed by the remaining board or elected by voters in a special election would represent the old District 1 boundaries. This means that no changes are on the immediate horizon for

the Tri-Valley area until the next regular election for those seats in 2024.

The redistricting process at BART kicked off late last year, with two meetings of an ad hoc committee formed for that purpose, consisting of directors Elizabeth Ames and Mark Foley and chaired by Director Lateefah Simon, on Nov. 10 and Dec. 1. Public outreach meetings commenced starting Dec. 15, followed by three additional meetings each in January and February.

Guiding principles for the redistricting process, according to BART officials, were compactness, continuity, preserving political subdivisions and the core of previous districts, and respecting communities of interest. ■

# Pleasanton mourns Stephanie Bell, Foothill alum and daughter of mayor

30-year-old remembered as 'relentless in her fight to treat and recover from breast cancer'

By JEREMY WALSH

Stephanie Bell, a Pleasanton native, professional engineer and daughter of Mayor Karla Brown, died on March 27 after a nearly five-year battle with breast cancer, the city has confirmed. She was 30.

A Foothill High School alumnae who also attended Vintage Hills Elementary and Pleasanton Middle schools growing up, Bell followed her passion for mathematics to California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo, where she earned a degree in mechanical engineering. Bell would go on

to work as a project engineer for high-pressure gas lines with PG&E in San Ramon.

"It's always difficult to lose our loved ones, but absolutely devastating when a child precedes us," Pleasanton Interim City Manager Brian Dolan said in a statement March 31. "Stephanie was relentless in her fight to treat and recover from breast cancer, as was her mother in her unwavering care for her daughter."

"The City Council and the entire organization offers our deepest condolences to Mayor Brown and her family," Dolan added.

The city noted that the family encourages people interested in celebrating Bell's memory to consider donating to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation or the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation in her honor to help support the fight to find a cure for breast cancer.

Bell's death was first announced publicly during the State of the City presentation on March 29. Mayor Brown, who had been scheduled to deliver the annual address in-person, pre-recorded the speech in light of her daughter's health. ■

## ZONE 7

Continued from Page 5

to cut back and be more efficient."

This year will be three years in a row of drought conditions and reduced State Water Project allocations. Zone 7 officials said the agency has proactively planned for multiple dry years, which includes conservation of water.

Because of the reduced availability of state water in 2020, 2021 and now 2022, Zone 7 has been relying heavily on the Tri-Valley groundwater basin, which holds the imported water Zone 7 stores during wet years to sustain the Tri-Valley during the drought. However, that supply can only stretch so far, and conservation is a key piece to prolonging the supply held in the groundwater basin, according to officials.

Water supply managers like Zone 7 hoped for more rain and snow that would reduce the scarcity this year but realized that the worse conditions are here to stay and could continue through 2023.

In the past, the Tri-Valley area relied heavily on its groundwater during the wet season to sustain

through the drought. With the persistent drought, Zone 7 considers water conservation an important way to prolong the stored water supply held in the groundwater basin.

The 2021 mandatory conservation water savings achieved promising results, with 20% water saved in October, 29% in November and 16% in December, according to Zone 7.

Tri-Valley water agencies commended the community for honoring the calls to conserve last year but the dry start to 2022 saw an increase in water consumption instead. In January, water use was 2% higher than 2020 benchmark levels and last month, the Tri-Valley saw only 1% conservation, Zone 7 said.

Last September, Zone 7 declared a drought emergency and Stage 2 water shortage emergency. This emergency declaration is still in effect, including a mandatory 15% water conservation from all Tri-Valley water service providers, which are the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, Dublin San Ramon Services District and California Water Service.

rotations as interim fire chief.

Testa began his nearly 30-year fire service career as an on-call firefighter and then firefighter-paramedic prior to joining the department in 1996, according to city officials.

Starting as a firefighter in Pleasanton before the consolidation of the Pleasanton and Livermore fire services, Testa moved up the ranks to engineer, fire captain and battalion chief. He has also served as LPPFD deputy fire chief since 2015.

"While I am not new to the LPPFD, I do believe that my new role is an opportunity to build upon relationships with our stakeholders in the two cities and the LPPFD team," Testa said.

Zone 7 suggests tips to optimize outdoor water efficiency like, watering the plants between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. as the cool temperatures will reduce water evaporation.

Quarterly checks on home irrigation systems are recommended to prevent water leakage or runoff.

Furthermore, it is advisable to limit irrigation to no more than three non-consecutive days per week. Additionally, adding two to three layers of mulch to the landscape could help the soil retain its moisture.

Zone 7 asks people to mow grass less because long blades of grass provide shade to the soil besides leaving grass clippings on the lawn to return moisture and nutrients to the soil.

People are asked to consider other low-water options of landscaping to replace lush-green lawns.

For the latest info on the drought, local water use restrictions and water saving rebates, visit [www.zone7water.com/drought](http://www.zone7water.com/drought). Residents and businesses are advised to visit their local water supplier website for specific restriction information. ■

In addition to his work experience, Testa has a Bachelor of Science in professional studies from California State University, Long Beach and a Master of Arts in leadership from Saint Mary's College of California.

Testa is a certified chief officer, paramedic and strike team leader. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, an incident commander for the East Bay Incident Management Team and has previously served as president of the Alameda County Fire Chiefs Association Operations and Communications sections.

There is no family relation between the new fire chief and Pleasanton City Councilmember Julie Testa. ■

## Considering Long Term Care Insurance?

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## We're looking for a few interns

We are seeking local high school or college students with an appetite for news and an interest in learning about print and digital media for internship opportunities. The interns will research stories, do interviews and help with fact checking and rewrites for the award-winning Pleasanton Weekly, [LivermoreVine.com](http://LivermoreVine.com) and [DanvilleSanRamon.com](http://DanvilleSanRamon.com). They will also be introduced to the other aspects of publishing, including advertising and production.

During the internship period, the intern will be an integral part of the team, participating fully in the process of gathering and presenting news.

Candidates must be responsible, have good writing skills, be available 10 to 12 hours a week and have reliable internet access. Internships require an academic sponsor. Applicants should send a resume, a cover letter explaining your interest and links to at least three examples of journalistic work to editor Jeremy Walsh at [jwalsh@embarcaderopublishing.com](mailto:jwalsh@embarcaderopublishing.com) by noon April 20.

Pleasanton Weekly

Livermore VINE

Danville SanRamon

# Dublin honors school staff in annual awards

Kaplan is Teacher of the Year; John is Classified Employee of the Year

By SHIRI MARWAHA

The Dublin Unified School District has announced the recipients of coveted awards this year recognizing certificated and classified staff members.

At the top of the list for the 2021-22 academic year are district-wide Teacher of the Year Ramany Kaplan of Dublin High School and Classified Employee of the Year Hepzibah John of Dublin Elementary School.

The full group, including winners at the individual school site and department levels, will be further recognized during a ceremony taking place at the regular DUSD Board of Trustees meeting in May.

Superintendent Chris Funk said



Ramany Kaplan



Hepzibah John

he appreciates the dedication of the incredible and talented staff in Dublin's public schools.

"The work they do every day not only helps to shape the lives of our students but also the future of the world we live in," Funk said in a statement.

The entire staff deserves recognition for their ability to function

so well during the challenging pandemic times and it is a testament to their character, according to Funk.

"It's an honor to highlight some of these incredible people who were nominated by their peers. To all our award winners, and to our entire staff, thank you for all you do, every day," the superintendent added.

DUSD Classified Employees of the Year were nominated by their peers to be recognized under various categories, including clerical and administrative services, custodial and maintenance services, food and nutrition services, health and student services, paraprofessional services, security services, skilled trades services and

technical services.

John, a paraprofessional from Dublin Elementary, was chosen as the Classified Employee of the Year. She is an exemplary instructional assistant for the preschoolers in special day class, according to district officials.

John was honored for her punctuality and dedication in encouraging students and recognizing their individual strengths. She is a positive influence on students, instilling in them qualities of self-reliance and independence, officials said.

Dublin High teacher Kaplan is the winner of the Teacher of the Year, who comes with 14 years of experience overall and has worked at the school for the last five years.

Kaplan, along with her team, played a crucial role in initiating a new English 1 Intensive course at the school. She is credited with creating a comfortable experience for Freshman by including engaging ways of teaching, officials said.

She is a passionate educator constantly striving to develop innovative and inclusive curriculum for her students, officials said. Additionally, she is appreciated by her colleagues and students.

The Teacher of the Year was chosen out of 12 total nominated teachers by their peers across the district and submitted to the Alameda County Office of Education for DUSD Teacher of the Year for their exemplary work in the classroom this year. ■

# Swalwell bill on cold-case killings clears House

'Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act' moves to Senate

By SHIRI MARWAHA

Federal legislation proposed by U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) designed to give more rights to the families of victims in homicide cases that have gone cold for over three years passed the House of Representatives with overwhelming support, 406-20, in voting last week.

House Resolution 3359, introduced by Swalwell and Rep. Michael McCaul (R-Texas) and dubbed "The Homicide Victims' Families Rights Act 2021," now heads to the U.S. Senate for consideration.

"The legislation plainly says — and will plainly make so — that the sun will never set on justice for victims of homicides and their families seeking closure," Swalwell said in his introductory speech to

the House.

Originally proposed in September 2020, the bill advocates for victim families and aims to offer them justice and closure.

"I'm glad my colleagues in the House, on both sides of the aisle, agreed that we can and must do better for the families of homicide victims," Swalwell said after the March 30 vote. "Advancing this bill means advancing justice and accountability so that grieving families have a better chance of getting the closure and healing they deserve."

The bill would also provide for relatives of victims under federal law to be given the right to have their loved one's case file reviewed by a federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over their case.

"My legislation requires a

complete re-examination of the file and accompanying evidence, new or renewed interviews with potential subjects and witnesses and other methods to identify possible missteps," Swalwell said.

Additionally, the bill requires the government to notify the victim's families of their rights, keep them updated along with data collection in such cases. Referring to the FBI Uniform Crime Report, Swalwell said an estimated 250,000 homicides cases are unsolved in the country and that number rises every year.

"The number of unsolved homicides that eventually attained cold case status increases each year by an average of 6,000," Swalwell said. "That's why I'm urging my friends on both sides of the aisle to swiftly pass HR 3359 and to join our

colleagues in the judiciary committee who unanimously supported the passage of this legislation."

As former prosecutors, both representatives said they have witnessed firsthand the peril of the victim families. Swalwell was an Alameda County deputy district attorney while McCaul was a federal prosecutor and a Texas deputy attorney general.

"As a former federal prosecutor, I have seen the devastation unsolved crimes can have on victims' families, too often, they are left to grieve and never get the answers they deserve," McCaul said. "I am proud to co-sponsor this bill and expand the rights of the families of homicide victims so they can have closure and healing."

Former federal prosecutors Glenn Kirschner and Katharine

Manning, former U.S. Department of Justice senior attorney advisers who specialize in victims' rights and services, helped during the process of drafting the bill.

"As a career prosecutor, I've worked with hundreds of families who have lost a loved one to violent crime," Kirschner said. "This bill gives those families not just a voice but a legal right to request a review or full reinvestigation of the homicide of their loved one. Victims and their families deserve precisely the kind of right this bill delivers."

If approved by the Senate and ultimately signed into law by President Joe Biden, the bill will apply to the cases of any homicide that occurred on or after January 1, 1970. ■

# Livermore advances new council district boundaries

Key changes include around Junction Avenue and St. Michael's schools

By CIERRA BAILEY

After holding four public hearings, the Livermore City Council has endorsed its final redistricting map referred to as "Plan Cardinal," which includes changes such as moving the Junction Avenue School area to District 1, with the boundary following Portola to Lee Avenue, and St. Michael's School to District 1 with the boundary following Church Street to 5th Street to Maple and then west on East Avenue.

The change impacting St. Michael's School puts all of the St. Michael's buildings, including the Catholic church and the convent in the same district. Junction Avenue School is now in the same district with its community of interest.

The new map also makes a significant change to the northern border of District 3, which previously went from the Interstate 580, down First Street and up Junction Avenue to connect with North Livermore Avenue. The Cardinal map moves that line south, so that it now sits on a portion of First Street and above Patterson Pass.

"I think it's the map that best balances all of our constraints," Vice Mayor Gina Bonanno said at the March 14 hearing where the council initially selected Plan Cardinal as its preferred map.

Each city with district-based elections is required to update the district boundaries every 10 years following receipt of updated population data from the U.S. census.

The city of Livermore has district-based elections for four councilmembers and therefore is required to update the district boundaries prior to the Nov. 8, 2022 Election, according to city staff's report.

The purpose for updating its district boundaries is to ensure that the districts remain substantially equal and still protect the rights of members of communities of interest to vote for candidates of their choice.

During a Feb. 14 public hearing, several draft maps were reviewed by the councilmembers and they provided direction which resulted in four new focus maps developed by the demographer, Michael Wagaman of Wagaman Strategies.

A fifth map was also on the table

for the council's consideration, which maintained the district lines exactly as they were. The council had the option to keep its previous boundaries without any changes as they were legally compliant based on the redistricting criteria.

During the fifth and final public hearing on March 28, the council voted unanimously to adopt Plan Cardinal with an ordinance, requesting only a few minor adjustments.

Some of the considerations that were discussed for selecting Plan Cardinal include, keeping communities of interest together, population deviation as well as deferral, which refers to a common side effect of staggered elections in which some residents do not get a chance

to vote for a councilmember in two elections if their neighborhood is moved from one district to another where the council seats are not up for election in the current cycle.

The new population deviation among the districts is now 3.1%, which is well below the previous deviation of 8.3% and meets the overall goal to remain under 10%.

Following the vote, the council thanked the participants of the community and the consultants for their input and work on moving the process forward smoothly.

The second reading and final adoption of the ordinance is set for Monday with the new district boundaries set to go into effect for the coming municipal election on Nov. 8. ■

# Livermore teacher inspires students with climate change curriculum

Rodriguez among cohort of educators picked for program designed by lab foundation

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore High School teacher Joey Rodriguez is one of a select group of California educators teaching with the Carbon Cleanup Initiative educational toolkit developed by the Livermore Lab Foundation.

Rodriguez is bringing the science of carbon neutrality, capture and storage to the classroom, with hands-on activities that students can apply in the real world and even locally in Livermore.



Joey Rodriguez



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Carbon Cleanup Initiative toolkit developed by the Livermore Lab Foundation features hands-on activities to help educate students about climate change.

“Compared to lessons used in the past, I felt these activities really helped students understand climate change and the importance of getting to carbon neutrality,” said Rodriguez, who teaches conceptual physics and biology.

“By using real world applications and examples, it made the students more invested because they saw something tangible. They were better able to relate to the content, see the problems first-hand, and explore possible solutions in trying to reverse climate change,” he added.

Two of his freshman students, Shrish Prenkrishna and Malana Island, echoed similar sentiments.

“I like this curriculum because it was a lot more interactive than the previous things I learned with,” Prenkrishna told the Weekly, adding that while the curriculum conveyed the severity of climate change, it did so in a way that wasn’t “bland.”

“A lot of the other curriculum I’ve been taught sort of teaches you about the effects of climate change but this one really teaches about

the cause and it also gives solutions to the problem too, which is really helpful because I think a lot of us our age are, at some point in our lives, going to be working toward reversing climate change,” Island added.

The Carbon Cleanup Initiative materials include four distinct units, representing 14 hours of experiential learning for direct classroom implementation, according to the program website. Activities are designed to work in consecutive order or as standalone units with cumulative learning. LLF received funding from the Clean and Sustainable Energy Fund to develop the educational materials and conduct public outreach.

Both Island and Prenkrishna said that being introduced to the Carbon Cleanup Initiative made them become more aware of the climate change impacts they see in their own lives.

Island said she notices the water levels of the creek near her home getting lower each year. She also said that she’s noticed on vacations

with her family over the years the shift from seeing vibrant coral in the oceans and active wildlife being present to more desolate conditions on recent trips.

Prenkrishna noted the extreme weather changes he’s witnessed since moving to California around 2016, including severe wildfires that he said seemingly get worse each year.

Both students also said that after going through the modules and the activities, they enjoyed completing the prompts that asked what they noticed and what they wondered as it gave them the opportunity to reflect more deeply about the content and hear the perspectives of their peers.

Rodriguez has been teaching at Livermore High for eight years and he said that the Climate Cleanup Initiative is a true example of “plug and play” material that is thorough, engaging and very student driven.

“It immediately has that application as opposed to having to create something from scratch — which is something that we still do — but from an emotional standpoint, these past two years, I don’t think society really realizes what teachers have been put through and what has been asked of us, so I really like the fact that this was probably the first curriculum that was truly plug and play,” Rodriguez said.

LLF is a 501c3 nonprofit organization supporting the fundamental science and research at Lawrence Livermore National Lab (LLNL). The Lab has been involved in the research and implications of carbon management for more than 25 years, with approximately 70 scientists, engineers and technicians dedicated to finding solutions, according to the program website. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

“By using real world applications and examples, it made the students more invested because they saw something tangible,” teacher Joey Rodriguez said.

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THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

HIGHLIGHTS

**City Council**  
Tuesday, April 12, at 6:00 p.m.  
Pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders N-29-20, N-63-20, and AB 361, the Council Meeting will be held via video/teleconference, and the Council Chamber – 200 Old Bernal Ave. The virtual meetings will be streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton> and <https://www.tri-valleytv.org>.

- Review and approve the draft All-Abilities Playground Master Plan, CIP No. 20773, and provide direction to staff on whether to proceed further with the design or pause until construction funding is identified
- Review and approve the draft conceptual design for Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks and approve an amendment to the professional services agreement with Moore, Iacafano, and Goltsman, Inc. for the not-to-exceed amount of \$28,770 for landscape architectural services and to participate in public outreach and related to the update of the Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks Master Plan, CIP No. 06716
- Review cricket field recommendations and provide direction to staff on cricket field options
- Review and approve the location of pickleball courts at Muirwood Community Park as part of the Court Resurfacing Project, CIP No. 22744
- Review and prioritize capital improvement projects included in City Priorities Work Plan

**Planning Commission**  
Wednesday, April 13 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 April 6, when the agenda is posted on the City’s website at: [cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning\\_agenda.asp](https://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp)

- Housing Element 6th Cycle Scoping Session for the Draft Environmental Impact Report that will analyze the environmental effects for the 2023-2031 (6th Cycle) Housing Element Update

**Youth Commission**  
Wednesday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m.

- Consider Youth Commission Recommendation to Support SB 1236 (School Districts: Governing Boards: Pupil Members)

**Parks and Recreation Commission**  
Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

- Recommend Approval of the Sixth Amendment to Agreement with Lifetime Activities in the Amount of \$94,352.50 for Bocce Services through December 31, 2023
- Receive information on the maintenance of parks next to schools, city properties maintained by Pleasanton unified School District, and Pleasanton Unified School District properties maintained by the city
- Receive parks project status report for October 2021-March 2022

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



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## BCN BRIEFS

*Editor's note: Following are snippets from recent articles by Bay City News Service or its BCN Foundation that you can read in full at PleasantonWeekly.com.*

### Snowpack way down

Following three of the driest months on record, California's snowpack levels are well below average and the outlook for water deliveries continues to be grim.

Officials from the California Department of Water Resources conducted their annual April 1 Sierra Nevada snowpack survey and found that levels are just 38% of average.

Standing on a conspicuously dry patch of ground at Philips Station in El Dorado County, where the snowpack is usually 5 feet deep or so, officials said the measurement of snow at that location was 2.5 inches on Friday, with a water content of 1 inch — just 4% of average for that location.

Just last month, a similar survey at the same location found a snow depth of 35 inches and a snow water equivalent of 16 inches, about 68% of average for the beginning of March. Statewide, the mountain snowpack water content stands at 44%.

### Rattlesnakes out

March used to be considered a relatively safe month for snake-averse hikers. Not anymore.

By mid-month, photos of wild snakes (especially rattlesnakes) were showing up on social media pages of both hikers and non-hikers in the Bay Area. Not all of the photos were taken in far-flung wilderness areas; some were in suburban neighborhoods and at least one was near downtown Walnut Creek.

It's California. We live with and around wild animals. But snakes usually wait until April or May to start showing up regularly. Climate change and California's historic drought, which some experts say will be more of a regular thing for the state, are changing how plants and animals do their business.

And as it gets warmer this year, more snakes will be out, warming their cold reptile blood in the sunshine.

### \$200M eyed for BART

President Joe Biden has earmarked an additional \$200 million for the Silicon Valley BART Extension Phase II in his upcoming proposed budget, a spokesperson for the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority announced last week.

The project will extend BART alignment from the North San Jose Berryessa station through downtown San Jose to Santa Clara, adding four more stations and six more miles of track, the agency said.

This will be the third allocation of funds for the project after the Federal Transit Authority authorized \$125 million in 2019 and another \$100 million in 2021. ■

## SAVE THE HILL

Continued from Page 5

of the hill to the Native American Ohlone tribe. "It's a very, very special, sacred site."

The more she learned, the more important it seemed to preserve the property. She worked with "Save the Hill," a group of concerned residents who opposed the development.

In 2012, the city issued a draft environmental impact report (EIR) to assess the likely impact of the development on the environment.

An EIR is a government planning document that considers the impact of a proposed project on the environment and also alternatives to its implementation. The idea is that by fully fleshing out the impacts and alternatives, government officials will make better decisions. The document also provides information for the community and helps hold decision-makers accountable.

The public was invited to comment on the draft EIR and many did.

In the words of the court, "it became clear there was considerable opposition to Lafferty's original proposal."

In 2014, the city Planning Commission recommended against approval of the application because of concerns about the project's compatibility with the environmentally sensitive preserve.

The City Council agreed and in 2015 it rejected the application. It also declined to certify the proposed final EIR.

Lafferty revised the application and in 2017 proposed a smaller project with 44 residences.

In August 2018, the city published a "Revised Final Environmental Impact Report" or RFEIR.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the RFEIR and recommended approval. The council agreed and approved the project in April 2019.

Covarelli couldn't live with that decision; the area was just too important to lose to development. But challenging it seemed daunting.

"I'm just a little old me... I had more people say, 'Oh, just give it up. Forget about it,'" she said.

But she did not. She found a lawyer, Jessica Blome, who agreed to represent the group.

In May 2019, Save the Hill filed a petition in Alameda County Superior Court challenging the RFEIR on a number of grounds, including the failure to evaluate adequately the alternative of not doing the project and preserving it as open space, the so called "no-project" option.

In April 2020, a Superior Court judge ruled against Save the Hill.

Ironically, the court agreed that the RFEIR did not adequately evaluate the no-project option, but it found that Save the Hill had not adequately raised that issue with the city during the administrative process and therefore did not preserve

the issue for appeal.

Save the Hill appealed. It was a hard decision for Covarelli.

"I had to really do a lot of soul searching because it was very stressful for me to have to deal with this big lawsuit," she said.

She is glad they did. The appeals court found that Save the Hill had done enough in the administrative process to preserve the argument about the no-project option.

On the issue of whether the RFEIR was adequate, the court agreed with Save the Hill and found that the city had not fully considered the no-project option.

The RFEIR said that because the land was owned privately and there was no plan for the city or other agency to purchase it, it was "not necessarily feasible to assume the site would remain undeveloped in the long term."

Therefore, even if the no-project alternative was theoretically environmentally superior than the project, keeping it open space was very uncertain.

What wasn't discussed or considered was the fact that the city had been a party to two multi-million dollar settlement agreements that made funds available to be used by the city for acquisition and preservation of open space land.

The appeals court found that the RFEIR's failure to consider the settlement money created an "informational void" that was inconsistent with the requirements of an EIR. The document is to be a tool for decision-making and accountability. If key areas of relevant information are omitted, the document fails the purpose the Legislature intended.

"An agency must use its best efforts to find out and disclose all that it reasonably can," the court said.

The appeals court held that "Lacking adequate information regarding the no-project alternative, the city council could not make an informed, reasoned decision on whether this Project should go forward."

The court set aside the decision to approve the project.

Blome thinks the case creates important precedent in California. While the happenstance of two settlement funds was fortuitous in this case, the decision makes clear that when an EIR rejects a no-project alternative as not being feasible, the officials must actually dig in and research whether that is correct. They also must disclose what they learn in the EIR.

Elizabeth Kelly of Livermore was out walking on a trail through the Garaventa Hills property Friday. She was over the moon at the news of the court case. She said that when she walks the hill she has seen a fox, a coyote, hawks, and many other animals.

"It just takes a breath away just to see the scenery, the green hills. And even when the beautiful gold dried up, it's still gorgeous," Kelly said.

David Ragland, president of Lafferty, said he was very disappointed with the decision.

Ragland said that Livermore needed the housing and the city supported the project. Ragland said the decision does not "kill the project" but he acknowledged that there will be delays to allow for changes to the RFEIR, more public hearings and another opportunity for appeal.

Covarelli is convinced that the court case is the turning point in the long fight. She thinks that the opportunity to preserve the area for future generations is too compelling to be dismissed, particularly when

settlement funds may be available. But she is prepared to go the distance.

"It really is amazing how one little person can do so much," she said.

At the top of the hill on Friday morning, there was a small cleared area where a dozen small white stones had been arranged in the shape of a heart. Next to them were two polished engraved stones — the sort you might see in a souvenir shop — that seemed to have been selected with Covarelli in mind.

The first says, "Dream."

The second: "I will not be Shaken." ■

## Jerry Thorne

July 28, 1944 – March 27, 2022

Born in Union City, Tennessee on July 28, 1944, Jerry was the only child of Vangie and Horace White ("Dugan") Thorne. He died on March 27, 2022 peacefully at his home with his wife Kalee in Marana, Arizona.

Jerry went to the University of Tennessee at Martin where he was a member of the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity and was a drum major in the marching band. He graduated in 1966 with a degree in Chemistry.

He led a successful career for 26 years at Hewlett Packard / Agilent Technologies as a health and safety engineer, which brought him all over the world. He had a second career as a civil servant, beginning many years ago leading an effort to get a 50-meter swimming pool built in Pleasanton, and culminating in his election to Mayor of Pleasanton in 2012. His list of accomplishments is long and distinguished, and his dedication to the city he loved will not be forgotten soon.

Jerry was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army. He supported several different organizations, but the ones providing support to military, veterans and their families were particularly close to his heart.

Jerry loved music. He played the trumpet, and he often woke the house playing Reveille on the bugle. He also was extremely interested in history, World War II history in particular.

Most importantly, Jerry was a proud father and grandpa, and a loving husband. When Keri was a child, he could be found every weekend on the side of a soccer field or swimming pool with his video camera (before they were small and manageable). In more recent years, he enjoyed nothing more than a visit from his grandchildren.

In July 2021, he and Kalee moved to Dove Mountain in Arizona to enjoy their retirement. He finally fulfilled a lifelong dream of owning a Corvette and enjoyed exploring his new area with the top off and Dire Straits playing on the radio.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife Sandra Roy Thorne in 2018. He is survived by his wife Kalee Thorne, his daughter Keri Thorne Gough, his grandchildren Eilis and Finn Gough as well as his step grandchild Ashley Kham and step great grandchildren Airsten, Zaiden, Nova and Kinglsey Kham.

There was a visitation held on April 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Clare's Episcopal Church in Pleasanton. The Funeral service will be held on Friday April 8, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. also at St. Clare's Episcopal church, followed by a celebration of life reception at 5:30 pm at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The American Legion:

American Legion

PO Box 823

Pleasanton, CA 94566

Made checks payable to the American Legion Post 237.

PAID OBITUARY

## Mangini Ranch Educational Preserve opens near Mount Diablo

‘It’s really special when we can bring our students to this preserve’

By TONY HICKS / BCN FOUNDATION

Save Mount Diablo’s land conservation director Seth Adams was just a few minutes into an interpretive hike of Mangini Ranch Educational Preserve, which the group formally opened last week.

About a half-mile down a gravel road from Concord’s Crystyl Ranch development, and the traffic of Ygnacio Valley Road, Adams stopped near a trickling creek to offer perspective on how nature and civilization rarely co-exist as they do around the mountain.

“Imagine that most animals have to drink every day,” Adams said on March 30. “And how valuable water is in the Diablo Range, where it is scarce. It’s a rugged landscape, which sort of forces evolution. Lots of micro habitats, micro-climates, exposures, geology, things like that.”

“I want you to think about how short a distance we just came, and that we’re in complete solitude now. There’s seven or eight million people within an hour’s drive

of us. But here we are. What do you hear? Insects, birds ... me.”

The conservancy group eagerly showed off its 208 acres on Mt. Diablo’s north side, between Lime Ridge and Mitchell Canyon, which it bought from the Mangini family in 2007.

The former ranch’s wildlife includes western burrowing owls, bobcats, coyotes, American badgers, and the endangered California red-legged frog. The area’s rare plants include the Mount Diablo buckwheat and Hospital Canyon larkspur wildflowers, and the desert olive grove.

During the official ribbon-cutting ceremony before about 35 SMD board members, employees, volunteers, and a few local dignitaries, the group’s executive director Ted Clement said the land was seriously at risk for development. The Mangini family instead sold to the preservation group for \$1.45 million — a far smaller sum than they could’ve got elsewhere.

“It’s a great location for conservation,” Clement said. “We have brought students and



RAY SAINT GERMAIN/BCN

Seth Adams, land conservation director for Save Mount Diablo, leads a group hike at the Mangini Ranch Educational Preserve.

volunteers to do a number of things ... all these great teachers started saying ‘It’s really special when we can bring our students to this preserve and have it to ourselves for the day. We have an intimate experience in nature. It’s safe. It’s controlled.’”

“So we started to work on this concept of creating an educational preserve for the public, where any school, any group — a church group, an addiction recovery group, you name it — could reserve this property, free-of-charge for the day, to come out and have an intimate experience with nature.”

Adams said the area features more than a

half dozen “plant communities.” A shady area is at the top of about a mile-and-a-half single-track loop, where school groups can spend hours learning. Much of that hike is through areas Save Mount Diablo has re-planted and taken other steps to preserve the ecology.

“We’re actively giving nature a hand,” Adams said.

The Mount Diablo buckwheat flower, which was believed extinct from the 1930s until being re-discovered in 2005, has been spotted on the property, as well as other areas on the mountain, which is the only known place it grows. Adams said, put together, there’s less

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# Camp Connection

than an acre of buckwheat left.

Local State Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, who chairs the State Assembly's Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, helped cut the ribbon before following Adams up the trail. She said the preserve helps promote equity in education by giving access to all students, free-of-charge.

"We talk about it all day, but you guys are actually doing the work," Bauer-Kahan told the group. "This is the work that needs to be done to ensure that our kids and our communities have the future they deserve."

Clement said he's often asked his opinion of the world's biggest environmental challenge.

"After many years in the field, I've come to the firm conclusion that the biggest environmental threat is the lack of deep, intimate, meaningful relationships between people and nature," he said, adding:

"That's really the problem. If we can align our hearts and minds with the natural world, we'll have the love and will to solve problems like the climate crisis, overpopulation, pollution. So it starts with our relationship with the natural world. That is the most critical thing."

The Mangini Ranch Educational Preserve is available to groups of three to 100 people (no overnight camping) by reservation. For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/3uJP4uN>. ■

Sponsored by Emerson Montessori Schools / Early Learning Institute

## Good writing is key to a classical education

The Hacienda campus of Emerson Montessori School is a different kind of school. It shapes strong, competent, self-confident individuals, not students who would rather "follow the crowd."

Emerson Montessori takes an innovative approach to classical education. Students progress at their own pace through skill subjects and learners are never pushed beyond their capabilities or held back to wait for others. Larger, flexible classrooms provide students with their own cubicles and computers, as well as small-group and large-group work spaces.

The curriculum — built on a Montessori foundation — is designed to develop a complete human being. It includes art, music, Chinese, Spanish, economics and business,



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physical education, school tasks, and personal development.

During the summer, the school is an ideal camp environment to improve student writing, an activity requiring both specific skills and the motivation to improve them. The Write Now! program fosters pride in student work by emphasizing what is valuable about it and how each draft represents an improvement over the previous one.

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## Firehouse hosts

# Holocaust memorial exhibit

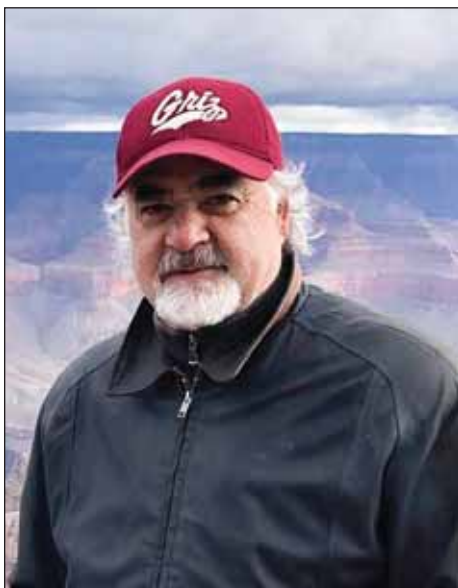
'I wanted it to be educational and end with a message of hope and survival'



By MELISSA MCKENZIE

For the first time in two years and in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), a multimedia exhibit of gritty imagery and eyewitness testimony is being shown at Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center through May 28.

"A lot of it is black-and-white paintings," said Larry Lagin, a local painter and president of the East Bay Holocaust Education Center. "There is some color in a few of the paintings, but it's mostly black and white and it's kind of harsh. The brushstrokes are kind of brash, but I hope people can see some of the emotion that I felt while doing these paintings."



Feeling compelled to tell the stories of hope, resilience and faith, Lagin began painting images he found in photography owned by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and through additional Holocaust photography research as part of a graduate level painting project at University of California, Berkeley.

"I looked through hundreds of photographs," Lagin said, "and basically I didn't want the photographs to be graphic. We're dealing with a very sensitive subject, and as I was developing this, I wanted it to be educational and end with a message of hope and survival."

Lagin said after finishing the paintings, he wanted to add another layer to the project as he fleshed out the idea of turning it into an exhibit. He reached out to University of Southern California's Shoah Foundation to pair his images with some of the foundation's 57,000 first-hand testimonies of Holocaust survivors and paired video testimony with his paintings to take viewers through World War II's timeline.

"The first painting is a picture of a boy," Lagin said. "He's wearing athletic shorts. It was taken before the war and he's smiling. He looked just like my two kids going off to soccer practice and he could be any kid."

While the first image portrays happy youth, the boy featured became a victim of the Holocaust at age 10, Lagin said, and the paintings quickly turn from smiling to somber as the timeline continues. Children being separated from their parents, dying from starvation in the streets of Warsaw and the

simple image of a remembrance candle take viewers on a journey through the war.

"The last painting in this series, which is the seventh painting along the journey, shows three kids laying on the ground in the Warsaw Ghetto, starving. I couldn't do that painting for three years. I just couldn't get myself to do it, but I knew it had to be done," Lagin said. "It was gut-wrenching to actually do that painting."

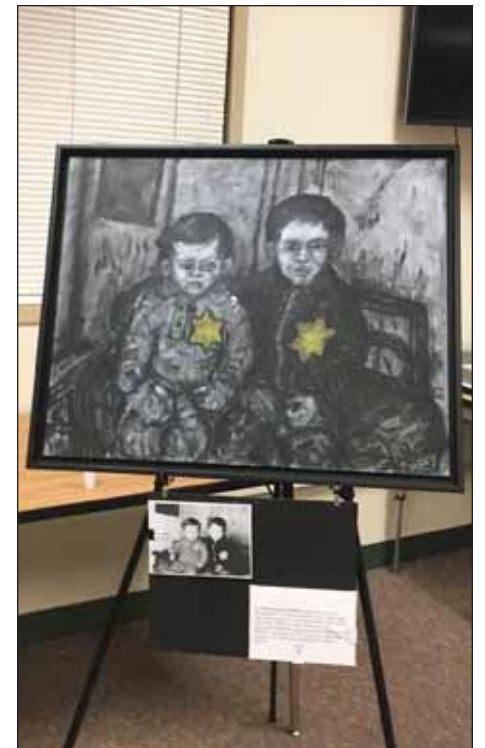
Lagin said the final image of the remembrance candle with a Star of David was a way to remember and honor the estimated 6 million victims, 1.5 million of which were children.

"It took a lot of thought and many years of product development," Lagin said. "It was really hard to do and it was an emotional experience trying to develop it. I actually felt like it became a mission — almost a labor of love. I felt compelled to do it and it was an honor."

In addition to the exhibit, EBHEC is hosting a talk and book signing with Henry Michalski, son of Holocaust survivors and author of "Torn Lilacs: A True Story of Love, Defiance and Hope" next Tuesday (April 12) at 7 p.m.

"It's a story about his parents surviving the Holocaust," Lagin said. "They're Polish and were imprisoned in (Joseph) Stalin's gulags after the war so it was a 10-year struggle for them ... I think it's important to have these personal stories. They are the most endearing and often the most difficult to hear."

The Firehouse Arts Center is at 4444 Railroad Ave. in downtown Pleasanton. The free



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Three images of artist Larry Lagin's work for the Holocaust remembrance show in the Harrington Gallery are shown. Bottom left: Author Henry Michalski, who is speaking at the Firehouse on April 12.

exhibit is viewable in the Harrington Gallery during regular gallery hours, Wednesdays to Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Michalski's book will be available for purchase at his event. ■

# 'The Legends of Folk' playing at Bankhead

## Kingston Trio, Limelinters join forces

BY MELISSA MCKENZIE

Two folk music groups with histories spanning over 60 years perform together when The Kingston Trio and The Limelinters play their "The Legends of Folk" show at Livermore's Bankhead Theater this weekend.

Recipients of the Grammys' Lifetime Achievement Award, The Kingston Trio formed in the Bay Area in 1955 and launched the folk revival of the late 1950s. Throughout its history, the lineup has changed, but the folk music that landed the group on Billboard's Top 100 album list 19 times has remained the same.

Likewise, The Limelinters' original lineup has changed over the years, but the group's impact on music

has remained. The folk group's biggest claim to fame was serving as Coca-Cola's musical representative when a rendition of the soda maker's jingle, "Things Go Better with Coke" became a national hit in 1964.

The paths of The Limelinters and The Kingston Trio have crossed a number of times over the past six decades. Former The Kingston Trio member Bill Zorn played with the band in the 1970s, only to leave and join The Limelinters in 1996. Zorn returned to The Kingston Trio in the early 2000s only to leave again in 2017.

Former The Limelinters member Rick Dougherty left to join The Kingston Trio in the early 2000s, but ultimately left the group in 2017, and current The Kingston

Trio member Don Marovich, was previously part of The Limelinters from 2012-2019 before settling into the present day trio lineup.

The Kingston Trio's current members include: Mike Marvin, Tim Gorelangton and Marovich while Daniel Boling, Steve Brooks and Andy Corwin play in The Limelinters.

The Legends of Folk show is set for 3 p.m. Sunday (April 10). Limited tickets (\$20-\$98 and \$20 students or military personnel) are available online, [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org).

Additionally, the Bankhead Theater recently changed its COVID-19 policy. As of April 1, proof of vaccination is no longer required to attend events at the downtown Livermore venue. ■



LIVERMORE ARTS

The Limelinters (Daniel Boling, Andy Corwin and Steve Brooks) play the Bankhead Theater this Sunday afternoon.

## Symphony presents 'Vibrant Voices'

Featuring soprano Moss Erickson, comedian Alpher

BY PATRICIA J. BOYLE

Livermore-Amador Symphony's concert, "Vibrant Voices," will take place later this month at Livermore's Bankhead Theater, with music director Lara Webber conducting.

Nature, eternity and democracy: Poet Emily Dickinson and President Abraham Lincoln inspired Aaron Copland to set their powerful testaments to music. "Vibrant Voices" will enliven these words in a program celebrating freedom, renewal and hope.



Faith Alpher

Faith Alpher, an actress, comedian and Livermore local KKIQ radio personality will narrate Copland's "Lincoln Portrait." She holds a master's degree in communication and has utilized

her gifts to inspire people around the world through her comedy.

Known for her quick wit and energy, Alpher writes curriculum and speaks at high schools, colleges, universities, and businesses all over the country. She is also known for her ability to reach people across generations, cultures, and belief systems on an emotional level.

Alpher has performed at the Bankhead several times, including her one-woman show, "Black Girl, Funny World," and in September 2021, "Got Faith."

Soprano soloist, Heidi Moss Erickson, will accompany the orchestra for Copland's "Poems of Emily Dickinson." She performed with the symphony in May 2016 in Samuel

Barber's "Knoxville: Summer of 1915."

She and her husband, composer Kurt Erickson, produced a special recital as a gift to the symphony last season when in-person performances were not possible. She frequently collaborates with Erickson and has premiered many of his works.



Heidi Moss Erickson

Moss Erickson holds a biology/music degree from Oberlin College, where she met fellow voice student Webber. She has been interested in the science of singing ever since she came down with a

rare facial paralysis in 2007. She is also a champion of new music and received the prestigious "Best in the Bay" award in 2019 for her Richard Strauss recital.

Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius' Symphony No. 3 completes the evening. This symphony's bold composition represented a shift from his first two romantic symphonies and was followed later by more austere works. This compact piece of many moods is written for flutes, clarinets, oboes, bassoons, horns, trumpets, trombones, as well as strings.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. April 23, with a prelude talk at 7 p.m. To learn more, visit [www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org](http://www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org) or [www.livermorearts.org](http://www.livermorearts.org), or call 925-373-6800. ■

*Editor's note: Patricia J. Boyle, past president of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley branch, writes about the Livermore-Amador Symphony.*

## 'Women Who Dare' on display

Danville exhibit spotlights trailblazers through art

BY MELISSA MCKENZIE

Women's History Month may have just ended, but the celebration of women continues at Danville's Village Theatre Art Gallery where trailblazers, leaders and innovators are on display in "Women Who Dare."

The exhibit features works painted by the Bay Area Studio Artists and showcases those who dared to challenge societal norms, break glass ceilings and forge new pathways for girls and women.

According to Joanne Taeuffer, who curated "Women Who Dare" with artist Marcy Wheeler, it took three years to debut. The exhibit, she said, was originally planned in 2019 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment's ratification in 2020.

"Of course, the show didn't happen in 2020 because of COVID. But, we persisted. In fact, during the hiatus of art shows during COVID, we continued to paint for the show and the results are better than we could have expected," Taeuffer said, adding:

"Ultimately, we think every day is a day to celebrate and cheer on women who are still fighting the

good fight for independence, equality and a little bit of power."

Taeuffer said although most paintings feature recognizable faces, some, including one of her own, "Reveries," focus on the everywoman.

"I like creating the idealized vision of an everywoman," she said. "(Reveries' is of) a young woman sitting at a table pensively staring into space. One can imagine any number of thoughts that might be going through her head. I like to think she is plotting to take over the world."

The exhibit, according to Taeuffer, also contains two collaborative pieces, "RBG" and "Holding Hands," both painted as "a way of expressing the importance of solidarity among women."

"RBG" depicts former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Entwined in Ginsburg's black justice robe are images of other "women who dared": Maya Angelou, Michelle Obama, Betty Ford, Sally Ride, Harriet Tubman, Amelia Earhart, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ella Fitzgerald and Rosa Parks, in addition to present day protestors marching, the Supreme Court building and a painting of Ginsburg's husband, Martin.

Smaller paintings of the women who came before, suffragists who fought for women's right to vote, make up Ginsburg's collar and the Statue of Liberty peers out from behind Ginsburg's signature pulled back hair.

"We owe a debt of gratitude to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who dared to challenge the old laws of the land that accorded unequal status for men and women," reads the painting's description.

"Holding Hands," Taeuffer said, contains a "series of self-portraits with smaller canvases between them showing us holding hands. The commentary on the piece says, 'Sometimes we can do it all ourselves. Sometimes we have to hold hands. Sometimes we're too far apart to hold hands.'"

In addition to Taeuffer and Wheeler, paintings by Suzun Almquist, Jeanette Baird, Lassie Colebourn, Ellen Reintjes, Ruth Stanton and Sharon Tama are displayed.

"Women Who Dare" is on display at the Village Theatre in downtown Danville through May 20. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Fridays from noon to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. Admission is free. ■



Georgia O'Keefe by Lassie Colebourn.

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Couple plead guilty to gambling scheme targeting local casino

A husband and wife admitted to bilking Parkwest Casino 580 in Livermore through an extensive scheme to cheat at baccarat over multiple years, according to state prosecutors who announced the plea deal last week.

Eric Nguyen, 40, and Khanh "Tina" Tran, 34, pleaded guilty to felony grand theft and were sentenced to eight months in jail, two years of supervised probation and a restitution bill to pay in the amount of \$507,600, California Attorney General Rob Bonta said on March 30.

"Breaking the law is never the right way to get ahead," Bonta said in a statement. "We will not tolerate criminal activity in our state. Today's announcement holds accountable Nguyen and Tran and sends a message that cheating in California will not lead to success."

At the time of the couple's arrest in 2020 on 10 felony charges plus special allegations, prosecutors said they conspired to steal nearly \$4 million from the casino they both used to work at. But last week after the convictions, Bonta referred to the gambling scheme as resulting in the theft of over \$500,000.

The criminal complaint said Nguyen and Tran cheated at EZ Baccarat with Panda 8 Rules during 2015 and 2016 while she worked as a card dealer and he gambled at the casino on North Canyons Parkway. Nguyen previously worked at Parkwest Casino 580.

"As part of the scheme, Tran would peek at a sequence of cards after shuffling and would convey the sequence to Nguyen before she left the table," prosecutors said. "Nguyen would then begin to play at that same table and place significant wagers when he recognized the sequence of cards relayed by Tran."

Casino officials first became suspicious of Nguyen's "gambling habits and winning statistics" in April 2016 and ultimately notified the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Gambling Control about the crime in June 2016, according to the criminal complaint.

Following a lengthy investigation by special agents with the California Department of Justice's Division of Law Enforcement, charges were filed against Tran and Nguyen in March 2020, and the couple were arrested in May 2020 in Harris County, Texas.

The original complaint upon their arrest listed Tran's first name as Khan, but the press release last week identified her first name spelling as Khanh.

—Jeremy Walsh

### In other news

- The Alameda County Coroner's Bureau on Tuesday confirmed the identity of the man who was struck and killed while walking on the BART tracks about half a mile from the West Dublin-Pleasanton station platform last month.

The decedent was identified as Edward Montez Jr., 40, of Danville. The circumstances of why the man was on the tracks that morning remains unclear, according to the BART Police Department.

"The investigation is inconclusive," BART spokesman James Allison told the Weekly. "The fence near where the decedent was found was not damaged so it does not appear the person trespassed onto the tracks by scaling or cutting through the fence. It appears the person entered the trackway from the platform."

The situation unfolded during the morning commute on March 16, with BART reporting publicly just before 7 a.m. that service between the West Dublin-Pleasanton and Dublin-Pleasanton stations was halted due to a medical emergency on the tracks. It was later confirmed to be a person fatally struck by a train.

Investigators' working theory, according to Allison, is that Montez entered the tracks from the platform minutes before he was hit while walking along the eastbound side for unknown reasons about a half-mile from the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station.

The nature of the death has not yet been classified.

—Jeremy Walsh

- A Fremont motorcyclist who died in a collision with an oncoming vehicle turning on Mines Road in Livermore last month was publicly identified by the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau this week.

The victim was 60-year-old Tadeusz "Teddy" Wilczynski. An online obituary from his family said Wilczynski, a native of Poland residing in Fremont, leaves behind a wife and a daughter.

"Teddy was a kind-hearted, generous man, full of love and compassion. He loved his family, nature, motorcycling, cooking and always made people laugh," the brief obituary stated.

The investigation into Wilczynski's death remains ongoing, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The collision occurred on the afternoon of March 12 when a Jeep Wrangler traveling southbound on Mines Road in unincorporated Livermore, about a mile south of the Tesla Road intersection, began making a left turn into a driveway and collided with an oncoming BMW motorcycle in the northbound lane,

the CHP reported at the time.

The motorcyclist — later identified as Wilczynski — died from his injuries at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley.

The speeds of both vehicles were under investigation, the CHP said at the time. The Jeep driver was described to be a 59-year-old Livermore woman, but her name has not been revealed publicly to date.

—Jeremy Walsh

- Grocery chain Smart and Final has agreed to pay \$175,000 in penalties to settle allegations of price gouging during the COVID-19 pandemic, state prosecutors said Tuesday.

The retailer, based in Commerce and having stores in the Bay Area including in Pleasanton and Danville, allegedly gouged consumers by raising the price of eggs more than what was allowed by law following an emergency declaration by the governor triggering price gouging protections.

Prosecutors said Smart and Final elevated prices above the allowable limits on four premium egg products between March 4, 2020, and June 22, 2020.

"It is unacceptable to take advantage of hardworking families" during times of crisis, Bonta said in a statement.

He said the settlement should serve as a warning to other grocers.

California law makes it illegal during the 30 days following an emergency declaration to raise prices on goods and necessities like food by more than 10% above what they were immediately before the declaration unless the increase reflects

increased supply or labor and production costs.

Some prices were as high as 25% above pre-emergency prices, Bonta said. He said the gouging occurred throughout Smart and Final's chain of stores.

The company operates stores in California, Arizona and Nevada and in Northern Mexico under a joint venture, according to the company's website.

Gov. Gavin Newsom declared an emergency on March 4, 2020, and extended it by five months on April 3, 2020, according to the attorney general's office.

The investigation by state prosecutors alleges that Smart and Final sold more than 100,000 cartons of eggs at illegal prices while price gouging protections were in place.

Other price-gouging investigations are underway, Bonta said. He could not go into details.

Officials from Smart and Final did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

—Keith Burbank, BCN

- A \$2.3 million grant that will be directed to assisting with cleaning up streets in Alameda County and combating illegal dumping has been received by the county's District Attorney's Office.

The office is receiving the grant from California Department of Transportation Clean California.

County officials said illegal dumping is an environmental justice issue and disproportionately impacts disadvantaged communities, stating that one of the most difficult and complex challenges in addressing illegal dumping is dumping at or near

homeless encampments.

"Illegal dumping has a direct impact on someone's quality of life. It can lead to urban blight, risks in public health, individual safety and environmental impacts on neighborhoods," Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley said in a statement. "We as a community, as a government agency, want to send the message that these communities riddled with garbage and trash are not forgotten: we live here, and we care about keeping our neighborhoods safe and clean."

Caltrans' Clean California Grant will support a new partnership between the DA's Office, the Downtown Streets Team, Waste Management and local recycler Argent Materials. DST will provide continuous litter and graffiti abatement services in Hayward and east Oakland, and Waste Management and Argent Materials will provide for disposal of the waste collected.

The project, which will also include a public awareness campaign, is expected to be completed by June 30, 2024.

DST is nonprofit organization that engages unhoused persons in community beautification and litter abatement in their neighborhoods and provides DST team members with job training and other services to help find pathways out of homelessness.

The Environmental Unit of the DA's Office will provide support and oversight of the program, including coordination with the Alameda County Illegal Dumping Task Force, of which the cities of Oakland and Hayward are active members. ■

—Bay City News Service

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### March 31

#### Vandalism

- 7:43 a.m. on the 8200 block of Golden Eagle Way
- 8:02 a.m. on the 7300 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:25 a.m. on the 500 block of East Angela Street
- 3:43 p.m. on the 2700 block of Camino Casa Buena

#### Theft

- 11:03 a.m., 6600 block of Owens Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 1:10 p.m., 6600 block of Johnson Drive; shoplifting
- 6:06 p.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road

#### Fire

- 5:10 p.m. on the 500 block of St. John Street

#### DUI

- 8:10 p.m. on the 3400 block of Smoketree Commons

### March 30

#### Domestic battery

- 5:31 a.m. on Bernal Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 7:14 a.m. on the 5800 block of Corte Margarita
- 1:36 p.m. on the 6900 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

#### Theft

- 12:34 p.m., 2700 block of Calle Alegre; auto theft
- 12:40 p.m. on the 6600 block of Owens Drive
- 2:05 p.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue
- 3:10 p.m. on the 7300 block of Johnson Drive
- 3:29 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 5:09 p.m., 5700 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft
- 5:43 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft
- 11:57 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft

#### Missing person report

- 1:02 p.m. on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

### March 29

#### Vandalism

- 8:20 a.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive
- 1:04 p.m. on the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

#### Warrant arrest

- 9:33 a.m. on the 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Theft

- 11:15 a.m., 4100 block of Sharab Court; auto theft

- 6:02 p.m. on the 1100 block of Mataro Court

- 9:12 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; theft from auto

### March 28

#### Theft

- 9:02 a.m. on the 2900 block of Stoneridge Drive
- 9:09 a.m. on the 4900 block of Owens Drive
- 1:17 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 2:20 p.m. on the 7400 block of Tassajara Road
- 4:53 p.m., 4600 block of Willow Road; theft from auto

#### Vandalism

- 11:49 a.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue
- 9:01 p.m. on the 2500 block of Skylard Way

### March 27

#### Vandalism

- 12:43 p.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

#### Theft

- 1:59 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 3 p.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; auto theft
- 3:07 p.m. on the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

# Opinion

## GUEST OPINION

BY SUPERVISOR NATE MILEY

### We must act now to avoid an eviction crisis

Mask mandates have been lifted, in-person events have begun to return, and national unemployment has rebounded significantly. No one can predict the future. But we can see that Gov. Newsom and local health officials are beginning to plan for the next stage of living with COVID-19.

Here in Alameda County, we are confronted by the daily reality that in addition to the COVID-19 crisis, we are also amid a housing crisis — and facing a daunting cliff.

In August 2020 the Alameda County Board of Supervisors extended the COVID-19 eviction moratorium to allow residents to shelter-in-place, regardless of income status, during the crisis.

From the very beginning, I

abstained from supporting this ordinance in favor of a voucher system which I felt would prevent situations where tenants and landlords are

now pitted against each other. The ordinance prohibits almost all evictions in the county and allows tenants 12 months to repay back rent. This moratorium was intended to limit the impacts on low-income renters and prevent thousands of residents from falling into homelessness.



This ordinance is tied to the local health emergency. When the Alameda County Health Care state of emergency is lifted, it will trigger the expiration of the moratorium on evictions in 60 days.

Whether that time comes sooner or later, we need to be ready. The question we must ask is what do we do next?

Now we must act to avoid a wave of evictions of low-income tenants when the moratorium comes to an end. We also know that property owners have struggled to meet mortgage and property tax demands on rental properties and wrestled against foreclosing institutions.

We need to act now to help people remain housed and keep rental properties in Alameda County.

I call on my fellow supervisors to join me in pursuing these main approaches.

First, is to urge the federal government to provide additional resources

to support renters and property owners. The pandemic isn't over, and the need in Alameda County remains great.

Alameda County's rental assistance fund has received over 12,000 applications requesting over \$200 million in aid. We should identify new ways, including a voucher system, to ensure that the funds flow directly to those who need the help most.

Second, is to prepare our local courts to be flooded with cases. We must seek additional funding from the State to allow for eviction proceedings to move forward when needed.

Cases have been brought to my office's attention where seniors rent out a room in their homes and now fear for their health and safety at the hands of their tenant — or small property owners who face financial ruin. Currently, the courts have no capacity to hear these urgent requests.

My office has received numerous complaints from property owners

renting to individuals fully capable of paying rent, who have refused to do so. This gives tenants a bad name.

Pandemic protections were enacted to support the most vulnerable residents in our community who were struggling. Tenants who can pay rent and are withholding it are taking advantage of, and putting at risk these very protections.

I think it is essential for all stakeholders to work on these solutions and seek additional ones. I am more than willing to facilitate those discussions. Together, we can ensure that those who can pay rent, pay their rent. And those who can't, especially the extremely low-income, get the help they need to avoid an eviction crisis. ■

*Editor's note: Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley represents Pleasanton, East Oakland, Castro Valley, El Portal Ridge, Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview and Montclair on the Board of Supervisors.*

## LETTERS

### March for Meals

Leaders of our community participated in a special March for Meals celebration honoring the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act Senior Nutrition Program, the federal legislation that helps to partially fund community-based programs like Spectrum Community Services' Meals on Wheels.

The city of Pleasanton declared the month of March as "March for Meals" with a proclamation at their March 15 meeting.

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, vice mayors Jean Josey (Dublin) and Valerie Arkin (Pleasanton), along with Kathy Young, CEO of the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance and Dublin City Councilmember Michael McCorriston, all showed their support to help raise awareness for the growing number of older adults in Alameda County facing hunger and isolation, both serious problems exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Livermore City Councilmember Trish Munro had a unique experience as she rode along with our weekly volunteer, Vice Mayor Gina Bonanno! Each day, every delivery driver performs wellness checks and distributes healthy meals to seniors who rely on the program daily.

If you are aged 60 and better and would like to learn more about Meals on Wheels and Senior Meals programs, please go to [SpectrumCS.org](http://SpectrumCS.org) or call 510-881-0300. Spectrum is also seeking volunteers to help serve or deliver meals.

Spectrum's Meals on Wheels and Senior Meals programs are not fully funded by the government and that funding gap means they rely heavily on private and individual donations to ensure no seniors are ever turned away.

Information about Spectrum's upcoming wine-and-food pairing fundraising event, Show Your Love, is available online.

—Caryl Mahar,  
Development director, Spectrum

### Seeking nominees

The Community of Character Collaborative is seeking nominations for the 13th annual Juanita Haugen Community of Character Awards.

These awards were established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton citizens who model high ethical and moral standards of behavior and are dedicated volunteers contributing their time to our community. Candidates for this award should exhibit traits chosen by the citizens of Pleasanton and advocated by the collaborative: compassion, honesty, respect, integrity, self-discipline and responsibility.

This award is named in honor of a longtime community volunteer and Pleasanton Unified School District board member Juanita Haugen. A co-founder of the Pleasanton Community of Character program, Haugen believed that part of Pleasanton's success is due to its compassionate citizens, folks who exhibit good character traits and those people who volunteer throughout our community.

Her vision was to remind people to model ethical standards of behavior within their communities, businesses, homes and to extend these traits outside our community as they travel and meet other people throughout the world.

To nominate an individual or a non-profit group demonstrating a commitment to our Community of Character traits through their volunteer work within our community, a nomination form is available at our website [www.communityofcharacter.org](http://www.communityofcharacter.org).

Completed forms may be emailed

to [PleasantonCommunityofCharacter@gmail.com](mailto:PleasantonCommunityofCharacter@gmail.com). The deadline for submission is Monday (April 11).

Nominees must be Pleasanton residents or non-residents or nonprofit groups conducting their volunteer work within Pleasanton.

—Ken Mano, via Town Square

### Yes on Measure A

Livermore elementary school students enjoy the lab experiments in their biweekly hands-on science classes. They learn about the elements of the scientific method by formulating a hypothesis, observing the interaction of the materials and measuring the impact of the interaction.

The lessons are taught by science specialists — credentialed teachers who have earned a single-subject credential in life/physical science. Livermore receives \$4 million from a \$138 parcel tax to fund this program.

If Measure A fails to pass, these hands-on science classes will end. Teachers will be reassigned — they have already been notified — or they will be laid off. Credentialed technology teachers will be reassigned — they have been notified as well.

The support the technology specialists provide improves student learning, helping them be successful in this digital age. Our students need your support. Vote Yes on Livermore Measure A.

—Cate Sarraille

### Vote for Cook-Kallio

Having raised a family in Livermore and worked for our schools, I know how important it is to elect leaders who understand public education inside and out.

Cheryl Cook-Kallio's qualifications to represent District 7 on the Alameda County Board of Education are unmatched. Her children attended

Alameda County public schools where Cheryl taught AP History and Government courses. She has championed quality programs and received the American Civic Education Teacher Award. Giving our students a solid foundation in civics is more crucial than ever, and Cheryl will work to ensure that all Alameda County schools provide that.

Cheryl has engaged with government at all levels. She received a Congressional Fellowship and has served on numerous advisory committees. Please join the California Teachers Association and State Superintendent Tony Thurmond in supporting Cheryl Cook-Kallio's candidacy, and vote for her in June.

—Sally Esser



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## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

### Bounceback week for Amador boys' volleyball

Also: Highlights from softball, golf, tennis, lacrosse

The Amador Valley boys' volleyball team found the way back to the Dons winning ways, taking a pair of matches last week.

The highlight of the week came with a straight-set win over cross-town rival Foothill.

Leading the way for the Dons were Nate Clinton with a great all-around game (11 digs, 15 kills,

and 2 aces among 9 service points), Bryce Nohava (6 kills and 10 assists) and Colin Bowers (19 assists).

Two days later the Dons defeated Cal High, once again in straight sets.

Tyler Homes led the Dons' offensive attack with 8 kills, Nohava pitched in with 7 kills and 5 aces. In a great overall team effort, Dylan Boswell, Logan Bayani and Ethan

Gray anchored a stout defensive effort, Ryan Yu had 3 kills and Sean Vahey returned from a foot injury to lead Amador's service game.

#### Foothill boys' volleyball

The Falcons had three matches last week, winning a pair in addition to the loss against the Dons.

Foothill highlights in the Amador game came from Tyler Keala (7 kills, 5 service points) and Zach Seraj (9 digs, 3 kills).

Foothill rallied back with a straight-set win over Granada. The Falcons were led by Landen Meonske (24 assists, 4 aces, 3 kills), Noah Mitzenmacher (11 receptions, 9 digs) and Casey Collins (8 kills, 1 ace).

The Falcons ended the week with a four-set victory over Livermore. Highlights came from Meonske (40 assists, 6 digs, 3 aces), Seraj (13 kills, 6 digs) and Kayan Vohra (10 kills, 1 block).

#### Amador softball

After almost four years of losing to rival Foothill, the Amador girls' softball brought down the Falcons by a 10-6 final on March 30.

Amador jumped out, scoring six runs in the first two innings.

Aleena Helms gave Amador a 1-0 lead on a groundout. McKenna Charbonneau — a freshman — made her debut by rapping a single to make it 2-0, and it went to 3-0 following a sacrifice fly.

Foothill tried to get it started in the first inning with Avery Francis hitting a single, then stealing second. The first RBI for the Falcons came by Emily Mayer as she was able to bring home Francis, making

it 3-1 after the first.

The Dons surged again, scoring three more in the second. The big blow was a two-out home run from Charbonneau, making it 6-1.

#### Amador boys' tennis

The Dons cruised to a pair of wins last week, beating Cal 7-2 and Livermore 9-0.

In the win over Cal, singles wins came from Bryan Park, Minsung Kim, Rohan Patil and Anuraag Aravindan.

Amador swept the doubles, with the teams of James Heeter/Aaditya Geddam, Roy Kim/Nigel Purvis and Subha Das/Vikram Murali getting the wins.

In the sweep of Livermore, the Dons juggled the lineup some. In singles, Abhiraj Jalagekar, Aiden Doan, Tai Falcone, Andrew Weckwerth, Bhavik Singhal and David Phillips all won.

The teams of Soren Pagtakhan/Rylen Sabhlok, Case Bahl/Evan Tu, and Ajay Chandran/Adesh Sahoo got the job done in doubles' action.

#### Foothill boys' tennis

The Falcons took three matches last week, starting with a 9-0 thumping of Granada.

Next the Falcons played a competitive Dougherty Valley team and came away with a 6-3 win. Aniketh Poruri, Christopher Lee, Matthew Chen, Jivan Krishna, Nick Tagalog and Ahan Trivedi won their singles' matches, and Dougherty Valley took the doubles.

The Falcons ended the week by defeating Livermore, 8-1. Archit Kumar, Anas Joyo, Komal Pmujula, Cameron McNamara and Anmol

Jain took the singles.

#### Foothill boys' golf

On March 29 the Falcons dropped a close 175-181 decision to De La Salle at Diablo Country Club.

It was the smallest margin of victory for De La Salle this season. Brandon Knight and Sean Kwok had the low scores, each with an even-par 35 for Foothill.

Later in the week, Foothill beat San Ramon 182-204 at Callippe Preserve Golf Course. Ben Harbourne and Kwok had the low scores with 1-under 35s.

#### Amador boys' lacrosse

The Dons split a pair of matches last week, losing to St. Francis and then beating Granada.

In the 13-8 loss to St. Francis, Luke Jacobsen led the scoring with 3 points (2 goals, 1 assist), with Mateo Castillo and Will Coultrip scoring 2 goals each. Alex Kragen forced 2 turnovers on defense, while Ryan Brace collected 2 ground balls.

A 19-5 win over Granada saw six Dons record multiple points, led by Colin Wallace with 11 (5 goals, 6 assists) and Reed Shaw with 5 (4 goals, 1 assist).

Strong team defense by Kragen, Daniel Kniveton, Tommy Hinek, Max Quarneri, Dillon Duke and Zach Frenz limited Granada to 12 shots. Max Young and Braden O'Donnell combined to win over 65% of their faceoffs. ■

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

## Employment

#### Senior IT Project Manager

Senior IT Project Manager - Pleasanton, CA: Lead project implementation plans to ensure effectiveness in various IT practice areas; Manage client relationships & provide guidance, etc. Req. Master's (or foreign equiv.) deg. in Info. Sys., Science (any field) or Engg. (any field). Req. 2 yrs. of work exp. providing project mgmt. svcs. Mail resume to: Zest Consulting LLC., Ref. #210901, 5000 Hopyard Rd, Ste. 165, Pleasanton, CA 94588

#### Applications Programmer Developer (Mobile App)

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Applications Programmer Developer (Mobile App) in Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. Subj. to bckgrnd check. E.O.E. Email resume to TA.Perm. Project@albertsons.com Attn: A. Rivas

To place an ad or get a quote, call 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@pawebly.com.

#### TECHNOLOGY

Philips Healthcare Informatics, Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of Senior Software Engineer in Pleasanton, CA (Ref. #NUSB). Troubleshoot issues relating to Philips' Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS), Philips Workflow Solutions, Philips advanced visualization techniques from install base using proprietary Philips tools and techniques including but not limited to Philips' core algorithms for image processing, workflow and rules engines, Philips' System Health Dashboard, Philips' Intelligent Device Monitoring, Philips' Application Log interpretation and third-party tools. Mail resume to Philips North America LLC, Legal Department, Barbara Bickford, 222 Jacobs Street, Third Floor, Cambridge, MA 02141. Resume must include Ref. #NUSB, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.



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From left: Amador Valley's Logan Bayani gets air on his serve. Dylan Boswell with textbook form on the pass.

NANCY RITER

## Entertainment

**COURTYARD CONCERTS AT THE BANKHEAD** Kick off the weekend with a happy hour in the stunning Madden Courtyard while enjoying live music of Aaron Burnham & The Brushfires. Tickets \$20. 5:30 p.m., April 8. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**AL FRANKEN AT THE BANKHEAD** Take this rare opportunity to hear from the only speaker on the lecture circuit whose career spans from winning four Emmy Awards to serving 10 years as a United States senator. 8 p.m., April 9. Tickets \$20-\$128. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**LEGENDS OF FOLK AT THE BANKHEAD** Two of the most popular folk groups of all time, The Kingston Trio and The Limeliters, come together in one show. 3 p.m., April 10. Tickets \$20-\$98. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**DRUM TAO AT THE BANKHEAD** Internationally-acclaimed percussion artists TAO continue to transfuse audiences worldwide with their modern, high-energy showcase of the ancient art of Japanese drumming. 7:30 p.m., April 14. Tickets \$20-\$95. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH ROBERT FROST** The 2022 Ed Kinney Speaker Series presents an intimate portrayal of a man who achieved unparalleled success as a poet despite episodes of great personal tragedy. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., April 19. Visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

## Exhibits

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW** Celebrate spring surrounded by rare plants, orchids and flowers in full bloom and discover how to create a remarkable garden with hands-on workshops and seminars. Tickets \$18-20. Visit April 8-10. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES GARDEN TOUR** The 18th Annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour and Green Home features four days of inspiration online and in person. April 16-17 and April 30-May 1. Suggested donation \$15. Visit [bringingbackthenatives.net](http://bringingbackthenatives.net).

**HARRINGTON GALLERY: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EXHIBIT** The Harrington Gallery in partnership with the East Bay Holocaust Education Center presents an audio/visual exhibit depicting the tragedy of the European Jewish people from 1939-1945. Eyewitness testimonies and paintings will inform as you travel through the exhibit. April 2-May 28. Visit [firehousearts.org/gallery](http://firehousearts.org/gallery).

**VISIONS OF SPRING AT THE BANKHEAD** This free exhibit from the Diablo/Alameda branch of the National League of American Pen Women runs Thursday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m., through May 29.

## Talks

**AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS** The April meeting via zoom discusses The Smuggle Principles by Karen Brow. Animal themes are her specialty with both pieced and appliqued blocks. 1:30-4 p.m., April 9. Visit [amadorvalleyquilters.org](http://amadorvalleyquilters.org).

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VS. URGENT CARE WEBINAR** Presented by Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare, this San Ramon Chamber of Commerce education seminar will discuss services offered in the Emergency Department in Pleasanton and the Urgent Care locations in Dublin and Livermore. 11 a.m., April 11. Visit [sanramon.org](http://sanramon.org).

**OVERCOMING STRESS AND ANXIETY USING MEDITATION** In this free Zoom presentation through the Livermore library, meditation practitioner and lecturer Arvind Naik will teach a simple technique to help relieve stress and anxiety. A short meditation is included in this program. 7 p.m., April 12. Visit [livermorelibrary.net](http://livermorelibrary.net).

**INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT** Religion Chat is a free monthly interfaith forum presented by Interfaith Interconnect on the second Wednesday each month. "What Holy Books or Other Texts Are Important to Your Religion?" is the topic of this virtual presentation. 5 p.m., April 13. Contact Interfaith. [interconnect@gmail.com](mailto:interconnect@gmail.com).

**SAFE DRIVING FOR NEW DRIVERS** The Livermore Public Library is hosting a Safe Driving for New Drivers workshop on Zoom. Claudia Castro, senior driver ombudsman at the Department of Motor Vehicles, will present important information relevant to new drivers. 6 p.m., April 13. Visit [us02web.zoom.us/j/82047367383success](http://us02web.zoom.us/j/82047367383success)

**LIVING WITH DEMENTIA-NEW DIAGNOSIS AND NEXT STEPS** In this webinar, Hope Hospice's dementia specialists share resources and strategies to help individuals and families prepare for the inevitable changes that a dementia diagnosis will bring. 10-11:30 a.m., April 14. Visit [hopehospice.com](http://hopehospice.com).

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GARDEN CLUB** The presentation this month is "Gardening for Butterflies and Pollinators" by Susan Karasoff. 7 p.m., April 14. Visit [lavgc.org](http://lavgc.org).

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS TO LEARN ABOUT THE LAW** Attorney Kelley Way will tell writers what they need to know about copyright, contracts and other legal issues with her talk on "Lessons in Literary Law". Reserve and pay online at [trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org) by April 15. Meeting 2 p.m., April 16.

**PLEASANTON TOASTMASTERS** Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. 7:30 p.m. each Tuesday via zoom. Visit [pleasanton.toastmastersclubs.org](http://pleasanton.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Family

**FAMILY CYCLING WORKSHOP** This workshop event is for kids who are able to ride a bike through paths and roadways with their parents (suggested grade range, 2nd-6th). 10 a.m.-12 p.m., April 10. Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road. For more information visit [bikeeastbay.org](http://bikeeastbay.org).

**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. & 1 p.m., April 9-10 and 16-17. Visit [ncry.org](http://ncry.org).

## Easter

**BUNNY HOP SCAVENGER HUNT** Kids of all ages will be able to explore downtown Pleasanton during the fourth annual Bunny Hop Egg Hunt. Event starts at Museum on Main. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., April 16. For more information, visit [pleasantondowntown.net](http://pleasantondowntown.net).

**MUFFINS WITH BUNNY** Hop on over and join a day of springtime fun. Muffins, snacks, games, crafts and pictures with the Bunny. Bring a camera. \$10 per person, children 2 years and under free. April 16. Register at [larpd.org/news/post/14346](http://larpd.org/news/post/14346).

**SPRING EGGSTRAVAGANZA** The City of Dublin's 2022 Spring Eggstravaganza includes egg hunts, photos with Peter Rabbit and Flopsy, games and much more. Residents \$15, Non-residents \$18. April 16, Heritage Park and Museums, 6600 Donlon Way. For more information visit [dublin.ca.gov/287/Spring-Eggstravaganza](http://dublin.ca.gov/287/Spring-Eggstravaganza).

## Fundraiser

**TEA PARTY IN A BOX FUNDRAISER** The Assistance League of Amador Valley is hosting their annual Mad Hatter's Tea in a Box. Tickets will be on sale until April 15. Price \$75. To order visit [assistanceleague.org/amador-valley](http://assistanceleague.org/amador-valley).

**PIIE RUN FOR EDUCATION** The 10th Annual Pleasanton Run for Education is a family-friendly running and walking event by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation that raises money to support Pleasanton schools. April 24. Visit [ppierun.com](http://ppierun.com).

**HIKE FOR HOPE REGISTRATION IS OPEN** The 2022 Hike for Hope is May 14 at Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore. This annual memorial hike generates support for Hope Hospice. Register early to receive a t-shirt at [TheHikeForHope.com](http://TheHikeForHope.com) or call 925-829-8770.

## Seniors

**PEDDLERS SHOP SPRING BOUTIQUE** Shop for one-of-a-kind gifts crafted by local seniors. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April 12. Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

**ESTATE PLANNING WITH SHIRLEY WHITE** 20 minute appointments the 2nd Thursday of the

## PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

### Gentle Goliath

Goliath is a gargantuan, great, gentle guy! This gallant giant is generally genial and genuinely good and goofy. Learn more about Goliath and other cats and dogs at [valleyhumane.org](http://valleyhumane.org). Email [info@valleyhumane.org](mailto:info@valleyhumane.org) to start the adoption application process.

month, April 14. In person and no-charge. Contract 925-931-5365. Pleasanton Senior Center.

**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 925-931-5365.

**VIRTUAL SMARTPHONE TRAINING** Attend a free online training to learn the basic functions of a smartphone. How to send text messages, make text larger, connect Bluetooth devices and more. Call 510-207-8609 or email [clin@ddpt.org](mailto:clin@ddpt.org).

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS** For free remote legal services call 510-839-0393 or visit [lashicap.org/programs/hicap](http://lashicap.org/programs/hicap).

**SENIOR LUNCHESES SERVED CURBSIDE** Lunches are served curbside at the Pleasanton Senior Center, Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241.

**TRI-VALLEY TRANSPORTATION** For rides to essential appointments, contact Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley at 925-931-5387 or email [dhoughtaling@ssptv.org](mailto:dhoughtaling@ssptv.org).

## Outdoor Recreation

**NATURE STORY TIME AT DEL VALLE REGIONAL PARK** Nature

Story Time is the first and third Saturday of each month. 10-11 a.m. 7000 Del Valle Road., Livermore. Visit [ebparks.org/calendar](http://ebparks.org/calendar). \$6 parking fee.

**BUTTERFLY BIOLOGY AT SYCAMORE GROVE PARK** Join this Ranger led program on a trip through the awe-inspiring cycle of the butterfly. Includes a short hike. 2 p.m., April 17. RSVP to [dsousa@larpd.org](mailto:dsousa@larpd.org). 5035 Arroyo Road., Livermore.

## Government

**PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., April 13. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT** Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. Meetings of the Board will be virtual via Zoom until further notice. The next meeting is 6 p.m., April 14. Visit [pleasantonUSD.net](http://pleasantonUSD.net).

**LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL** The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., April 11. For more information visit [cityoflivermore.net](http://cityoflivermore.net).

## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

Beach House Waxing LLC  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 587139  
The following person doing business as: Beach House Waxing LLC, 4713 First Street, Suite 215, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Beach House Waxing LLC, 4428 Hacienda Drive, Apt. 104, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Beach House Waxing LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein April 16, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Victoria Gleese, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on

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

March 9, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 2022.)

Furry-God-Mother  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 587006  
The following person doing business as: Furry-God-Mother, 4300 Black Avenue, #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Dawn Atwood, 4300 Black Avenue, #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Dawn Atwood, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 25, 2011. Signature of Registrant: Dawn Atwood, Owner/Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2022.)

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Feb. 7-10 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and Feb. 28 to March 4 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 7747 Chestnut Way** Shevelson Trust to M. & R. Bhatnagar for \$1,720,000
- 3963 Empire Court** N. & S. Chakrabarty to H. & V. Lingom for \$2,050,000
- 6241 Guyson Court** Skillings Family Trust to D. & S. Iyer for \$1,630,000
- 4316 West Ruby Hill Drive** L. Yang to L. Liu for \$3,249,000
- 5 Winding Oaks Drive** S. Iyer to Ronald W. Carpenter Jr Ministries for \$5,980,000

### Livermore

- 750 Alexander Street** H. Nolan to P. & A. Bharadwaj for \$1,205,000
- 1335 Balboa Way** Marshall Living Trust to P. & T. Ganesan for \$1,150,000
- 745 Canterbury Avenue** L. Li to G. & J. Malladi for \$1,436,000
- 141 Cascade Avenue** S. Stauffer to A. & Y. Yan for \$1,262,000
- 416 Colusa Way** M. Ziemer to R. & V. Rayala for \$1,180,000
- 3966 Dyer Road** B. & P. Harrold to N. & C. Benjaram for \$1,765,000
- 4336 East Avenue** Willis Family Trust to R. & C. Arcosa for \$1,200,000
- 530 Escondido Circle** Tyler Trust to R. & D. Bhardwaj for \$1,950,000
- 5873 Flora Common** Y. Cui to S. & P. Kolluru for \$1,460,000

- 927 Marcella Street** K. Tooker to L. & H. Lao for \$1,425,000
- 32 Meritage Common #202** W. & D. Paul to C. Tate for \$502,000
- 2183 Mezzamonte Drive** Brannan Family Trust to G. & C. Srinivasan for \$1,900,000
- 4177 Olmstead Way** Vangroningen Family Trust to Kaplan Trust for \$1,965,000
- 5945 Running Hills Avenue** M. & J. Acenas to A. Hermann for \$1,140,000
- 446 Selby Lane** J. & J. Panagiotopoulos to L. & G. Ramakrishnan for \$1,121,000
- 202 Stratus Common** C. Srinivasan to K. & R. Szarecki for \$1,090,000

### Dublin

- 3971 Branding Iron Court** N. Raju to T. & J. Peng for \$1,660,000
- 5701 Brio Road** Wong Trust to B. & K. Rameshkumar for \$1,110,000
- 4179 Clarinbridge Circle** S. Chae to Z. Xue for \$680,000
- 4930 Hibernia Drive #91** S. Kozlov to S. & D. Rana for \$1,375,000
- 7517 Honey Court** C. & A. Bowers to Neema Family Trust for \$1,718,500
- 4809 Perugia Street** X. Shen to M. & M. Zahedi for \$935,000

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 (Feb. 7-10)

**Total sales reported:** 5  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,630,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$5,980,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$2,050,000

### Livermore (Feb. 7-10)

**Total sales reported:** 16  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$502,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,965,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,233,500

### Dublin (Feb. 7-10)

**Total sales reported:** 8  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$680,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,718,500  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,242,500

### Sunol (Feb. 7-10)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,910,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,910,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,910,000

### San Ramon (Feb. 28-March 4)

**Total sales reported:** 15  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$374,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,350,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,600,000

Source: California REsource

## OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

### MENLO PARK

**1970 Menalto Ave** **\$1,788,000**  
 Sat 1:30-4:30 3BD/2BA  
 DeLeon Realty 650-785-5822

### PLEASANTON

**550 Montori Court** **\$2,695,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 4BD/3BA  
 Keller Williams Tri Valley Realty 925-413-6544

### PORTOLA VALLEY

**138 Cervantes Road** **\$7,488,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 5BD/8BA  
 DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

### REDWOOD CITY

**1108 Haven Avenue** **\$1,488,000**  
 Sat 1:30-4:30 4BD/4BA  
 DeLeon Realty 650-684-0887

### WOODSIDE

**810 Glencrag Way** **\$3,488,000**  
 Sat/Sun 1:30-4:30 4BD/4BA  
 DeLeon Realty 650-900-7000

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

# We are Connected to the Market

## 3463 Windsor Ct., Pleasanton Meadows



A freshly updated modern farmhouse with 3,556 sq ft of living space and offers multiple styles of living with a bonus room, in-law unit and MORE...all on a spacious lot on a private court!

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm

## 7608 Cottonwood Lane, Pleasanton



A single story, 4 bedroom/2 bathroom home with fresh updates, close to commute options, Pleasanton schools and is within Highland Oaks HOA. Listed by Jenny Shibliq, 925-202--9026

Open Saturday and Sunday 1-4pm



**KATIE MOË**

Founder | Realtor  
 925.216.9083 | DRE #01507863  
[katie@connectcaliforniahomes.com](mailto:katie@connectcaliforniahomes.com)



Looking to buy or sell??

We've got you covered.  
 Connect with us today.



# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

## We Were Voted #1 For A Reason




**OPEN HOUSE**



**550 Montori Court, Ruby Hill**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,680 Square Feet  
Join Us For An Open House 3/9 & 3/10 from 1-4pm

**Coming Soon!**  
Listed For \$8,000,000



**Chateau Bellevue, Livermore**  
Amazing Luxury Property Includes Home, Winery, and Wine Tasting.  
Call for more details!



Alexis Venema  
925.963.5446

**Coming Soon!**



**3243 Picadilly Ct, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 1,941 Sqft  
Call for details and pricing

**Pending!**



**3557 Olympic Court, Pleasanton**  
3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,576 SqFt  
Listed at \$1,550,000



Michelle Kroger  
925.785.3134

**Pending!**



**1693 E Gate Way, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,780 SqFt  
Listed at \$1,950,000



Alexis Venema  
925.963.5446

**Pending!**



**4583 Gatetree Cir, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,808 SqFt  
Listed at \$1,895,000



Alexis Venema  
925.963.5446

**Pending!**  
Representing Buyer



**2780 Willowren Way, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,100 SqFt  
Listed at \$1,800,000



Michelle Kroger  
925.785.3134

**Pending!**  
Representing Buyer



**2470 Sanderling Drive, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,348 SqFt  
Listed at \$1,898,000



Michelle Kroger  
925.785.3134



**Liz Venema**  
Owner, Realtor  
(925) 413-6544



**Alexis Venema**  
Realtor  
(925) 963-5446



**Lisa Desmond**  
Realtor, Listing Manager  
(925) 352-5065



**Michele Kroger**  
Realtor  
(925) 785-3134



**Sabrina Tirado**  
Realtor  
(925) 578-4303



**Bhavna Manning**  
Realtor  
(925) 998-2388



**Brenda Meckenstock**  
Realtor  
(925) 353-6484



**Amanda Davlin**  
Director of Operations  
(925) 922-1619



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Blaise Lofland



Kelly McKaig



Desiree Fanucchi



Ashley Kenitzer

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blaise@blaiselofland.com



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

**RUBY HILL**



**1849 SPUMANTE PLACE,  
PLEASANTON**

5 BEDS | 4.5 BATHS

5,623 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

**JUST SOLD FOR \$4,195,000**

**MONTAGE**



**118 SELBY LANE #6,  
LIVERMORE**

3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS

1,548 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

**OFFERED AT \$889,000**

**COUNTRY FAIR II**



**6191 VIA DE LOS CERROS,  
PLEASANTON**

5 BEDS | 3 BATHS

2,311 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

**JUST SOLD FOR \$2,250,000  
REPRESENTED BUYERS**

**BIRDLAND**



**2550 SANDERLING DRIVE,  
PLEASANTON**

3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS

1,920 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

**SOLD FOR \$2,100,000  
REPRESENTED BUYERS**

**STONERIDGE**



**4905 HILLCREST WAY,  
PLEASANTON**

4 BEDS | 3 BATHS

2,759 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

**SOLD FOR \$2,450,000  
REPRESENTED BUYERS**

*My wife and I met Blaise over 27 yrs ago when we bought our first home in Pleasanton. Since then he has helped us sell that home, and buy and sell another home across the span of almost 20 yrs. During that long span in our second home, we kept in touch with Blaise as we knew we would use him again. As many others have commented, Blaise and his team, specifically Kelly, are extremely professional, reliable, courteous and most importantly, trustworthy. Blaise and Kelly made a few recommendations on things we could do to the house before putting it on the market in the hopes of getting the best possible offer. We took all of their recommendations, used their preferred contractors for all of the work and in my opinion, it was a great investment, as our selling price far exceeded our expectations. In summary, I would highly recommend the Blaise Lofland team for your next real estate transaction! Thank you again Blaise and Kelly!*

—Tim & Carrie

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.

**PENDING - LISTED AT \$2,900,000**



**500 Happy Valley Road  
Pleasanton**

This home offered a highly sought after country setting on a seldom found 1 Acre lot. 3 Bdr 3.5 Ba with detached 4 car garages, pool.



**Coming Soon in April**  
Pleasanton a 3 Bdr 2 Ba with 1,700 Sq.Ft. on a 10,000 lot and solar



**SOLD \$67,000 OVER LIST**

**\$962,000 | 1598 Bluebell Dr, Livermore**

*From the sellers:* Our family unexpectedly found the home of our dreams but to make that dream a reality we needed to sell our home in Livermore fast. We called Kris Moxley and without hesitation or any notice she happily took us on! Kris' professionalism and knowledge gave us confidence and a truly stress-free experience. She is an expert in this industry and her love for it is evident. Throughout our whole experience, Kris always kept our best interest at heart and was the real estate leader we needed. She sold our home faster than we ever expected and well over asking price. We are grateful for Kris and her hard work.



**SOLD \$115,000 OVER LIST**

**\$815,000 | 2639 Gaines Ct, Tracy**

*From the sellers:* We are so pleased to have you work with us on this home sale project. The sale price is more than we expected to receive.



**SOLD \$135,000 OVER LIST**

**\$1,205,000 | 750 Alexander St, Livermore**  
3 Bdr. 2 Ba. 1,400 Sq.Ft.



**SOLD**

**\$2,915,000 | 1369 Briones Ct, Pleasanton**  
5 Bdr. 4.5 Ba. 4,200 Sq.Ft.



**SOLD \$425,000 OVER LIST**

**\$2,050,000 | 1846 Tanglewood Way, Pleasanton**

*From the sellers:* Our family chose Kris to sell our parent's home of 55 years. In every step of the way, Kris was excellent to work with. She spent time and effort in providing us with current market values and trends to help us make good, informed decisions. She provided very helpful insight on how to present our home and her decision for timing to place the home on market couldn't have been better. Her communication skills were excellent and she was prompt in responding to any inquiries. Thank you Kris for a job well done and know our family would highly recommend your services to others.



**moxleyrealestate.com**



**Kris Moxley**

925.519.9080  
moxleyrealestate.com  
DRE 00790463  
900 Main Street,  
Pleasanton, CA 94566



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