

Pleasanton Weekly

Staying
Healthy
SUMMER 2022

Inside this issue

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Pleasanton
Weekly

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BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Contradictions and consequences

Please understand, I am not taking a stance on candidates, issues or anything of a political nature here. This is about perceived contradictions and, perhaps, unintended consequences.

Here are statements that are pretty much common knowledge and/or common sense; below these statements are what I consider contradictions. Or frustrations. Or both.

If abortion is “banned,” women will get them illegally.

- We need to ban gun sales.

We have a serious drought. Crops are not being planted and farmworkers are not working consistently or at all in some cases. Proposed legislation would pay farmworkers to the tune of \$1,000 a month while not working.

- Desalination plants are too expensive to build.

Homelessness in California increased in double digits between 2020 and 2021 for myriad reasons, and more affordable, “workforce” housing is necessary.

- We can’t alter the environmental review process or curtail other tactics used by “concerned neighbors” that delay the projects by years. (Just this week a group in Livermore proposed a referendum for the November ballot to stop construction of 130 new affordable homes in the city’s downtown.)

- (Bonus!) Elected officials, who get major money from the construction workers’ union, will not cross said union; the union continues to request additional labor protections be attached to low-income and workforce housing, which makes it substantially more expensive to build.

“We know on so many levels how money is the problem with politics,” Pleasanton City Councilmember Julie Testa said in a May 2021 council meeting, during which the majority voted to set voluntary limits on the amount an individual can donate to a local candidate.

- A political action committee (PAC) with majority funding from billionaire investor George Soros just contributed \$1 million to a candidate in the Contra Costa County District Attorney race.

During the same May 2021 meeting, Testa called for more transparency so voters know who is funding which candidates.

- When individual contributions to campaigns are limited, people turn

to PACs and independent expenditures and give as much as they want because there are, for the most part, no limits. And, in many cases, it is much easier to find out who is giving money to candidates when contributions are not funneled through PACs.

There is an example of what happens with contribution limits in Alameda County’s DA race.

District Attorney Nancy O’Malley, who has held the office since being appointed in 2009, is not running for re-election. One of the four candidates vying to replace her, Pamela Price, has raised approximately \$355,000 in contributions, according to county records. This includes \$40,000 from John Bauer of Pleasanton, the father of a man who died in Pleasanton Police Department custody in 2018.

When Bauer hit the maximum of \$40,000 he could contribute as an individual, he contributed \$100,000 to the Independent Expenditures Supporting Price for District Attorney 2022 committee, which funded postcards, yard and window signs, mailers and the like for Price.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with what Bauer did. But what’s the point in having contribution limits?

In Pleasanton, the definition of an “individual” also includes PACs, which can make a donation to a candidate of up to \$1,000, according to assistant city attorney Larissa Seto when she clarified limits in 2021.

“But there’s also a situation, if you have a political action committee that’s independent of a candidate, then it can also make its own expenditures independently,” Seto told the council at the time.

Seto further explained that it would be permissible for someone to donate \$1,000 to a candidate, then another \$1,000 to a PAC that in turn donated \$1,000 toward the same campaign, “as long as that PAC isn’t being controlled by that same candidate.”

Pleasanton’s decision in 2021 to put limits on individual contributions set the stage for some pretty creative campaign funding in the 2022 election.

Just a guess. I never make predictions. Never have and never will. (Contradiction intended.) ■

Gina Channell Wilcox has been the president and publisher of Embarcadero Media Group’s East Bay division since 2006.

About the Cover

Axis Community Health this year is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Past photos courtesy Axis; 2022 gala photo (bottom right) by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Doug Young.

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What do you most appreciate and value about the flexibility to work from home?



Susie Dent
Lawyer

Working from home allows me to make sure I'm maximizing the pockets of time I would otherwise lose commuting — previously three hours a day, with a bus, ferry and walking!. I'm able to get more work done knowing I have "bonus" hours to spend time at the gym, and with friends and family.



Anthony Rush
Aircraft technician

Unfortunately, due to the nature of my work, I don't have the luxury of working from home, ever. It would be so great if my employer could just drop the planes off in my driveway every day. But I guess that's just wishful thinking.



Elyas R
Property manager

It is exactly the flexibility that is most valuable to me. It saves me time and enables me to be with my beautiful family more often, instead of being stuck in traffic. I love being able to work from home at least once a week.



Fiona Tran
Finance

I enjoy being able to spend more time with my daughter during the day. We can have lunch together when I work from home, and I can pop in on her while she is being cared for by my nanny.



Stephanie Sorenson
Attorney

I really like not having to commute to work and to be able to workout during the day and basically set my own schedule. I especially love being at home the moment I finish up my work for the day. There's a lot of value in that!

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Visit www.zone7water.com/drought for information on rebates, water use rules, and fixing leaks



TRI-VALLEY WATER AGENCIES



DIGEST

Graduations

Pleasanton Unified School District's three high schools each have their graduation ceremonies scheduled for today (June 3).

Village High School graduates will be honored from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Firehouse Arts Center, Foothill High School's ceremony will run from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Foothill Stadium and Amador Valley High School's event will start at 7 p.m.

Election Day

Election Day will arrive on Tuesday (June 7), marking the deadline for residents to cast their vote in person or submit their completed vote-by-mail ballot.

Local contests on Tri-Valley ballots include Alameda County district attorney, county sheriff-coroner, county superintendent of schools, county Board of Education Trustee Area 7, Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors, Assembly Districts 16 and 20, U.S. House of Representatives District 14 and a handful of statewide posts.

Visit acvote.org for polling or ballot dropbox locations. Then, check out live coverage on Election Night at PleasantonWeekly.com.

Summer Get-Together

Goodguys is hosting its 27th annual Summer Get-Together at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton this Saturday (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

The car show will feature "over 2,500 custom hot rods, muscle cars, restored classics and trucks from all over the country competing for industry-leading show prizes, as well as on-track excitement, live music and more," organizers said. For tickets, visit good-guys.com.

Pancake Breakfast

Local military veteran and community service organizations are holding the annual Hometown Pancake Breakfast for the first time in two years this Saturday (June 4) at Delucchi Park in downtown Pleasanton from 7:30-11 a.m.

The event raises funds to support Pleasanton Military Families, which is gearing up for an upcoming packout to send care packages later this month to service members overseas. Donations of cash and goods will be accepted at the breakfast.

To learn more about the program, visit www.pleasantonvfw.org. ■

Corrections

Last week's article "Meet Assembly District 20 candidates" incorrectly identified one of the candidates. The Republican on the ballot is Joseph Grcar. The Weekly regrets the error.

Groups sue to stop Valley Link

Petitioner rep calls project 'wasteful and illegal empire-building'; agency director argues lawsuit 'mischaracterizes', 'without merit'

By CIERRA BAILEY

Two groups have teamed up in a lawsuit to stop development of the Valley Link commuter light rail system, which proposes to add seven new stations along a 42-mile corridor between the eastern Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station and the planned Altamont Corridor Express North Lathrop Station.

The Alameda County Taxpayers' Association and the Transportation Solutions Defense and Education Fund are named as petitioners in the suit filed May 23 in Alameda County Superior Court,

along with Marcus Crawley — who is president of the taxpayers' group — and Oakland-based Montclair Village Hardware.

"The Legislature created the authority to close a five-mile gap between BART and ACE, but their 'mission creep' resulted in a project 42 miles long. We have to put a stop to this wasteful and illegal empire-building," Crawley said in a statement.

Three different agencies including the Tri-Valley/San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority, the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the Metropolitan

Transportation Commission are named as defendants in the suit.

Attorney for the petitioners, Jason Bezis, said in a statement that the demolition and relocation of Interstate 580 to make room for the Valley Link tracks would be a waste of more than a billion dollars, "tearing up 11 miles of recently built freeway, adding no transportation capacity in itself."

The lawsuit argues that the transit authority has exceeded its legal mandate. It also alleges that the Alameda County Transportation Commission illegally shifted

\$400 million in 2014 Measure BB sales tax funds to Valley Link from the proposed BART to Livermore extension project and that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission is illegally funding Valley Link with bridge tolls that are supposed to pay for seismic retrofits.

Valley Link executive director Kevin Sheridan told the Weekly that the lawsuit is "without merit" and that it "mischaracterizes" the project.

He also noted that the lawsuit

See **VALLEY LINK** on Page 7



DAVID HAGLUND/PUSD

Over 300 students at Hart Middle School in Pleasanton listen to student speakers during a walkout protesting gun violence Tuesday morning.

Hart Middle School students organize walkout to protest gun violence

Call for stricter laws in wake of Uvalde shooting

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

More than 300 students at Hart Middle School participated in a walkout Tuesday morning in response to the mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas where 19 children and two teachers were killed at an elementary school one week earlier.

Patrick Gannon, director of communications for the Pleasanton Unified School District, said the walkout lasted approximately 10 minutes and that "student organizers reached out to the school administration to inform them and receive authorization to hold the demonstration on campus prior to

holding the event."

He said the organizers, participants and student speakers were all respectful, responsible and returned to class following the demonstration.

"We are proud of the student organizers who chose to stand up and act on something they believed strongly in," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund told the Weekly. "I am grateful that they did so in a safe, respectful and responsible way by working with their school administrators. This is truly our PUSD mission in action: our students will make a better world."

Haglund, who attended the

walkout, said he is saddened that the Pleasanton school community, along with those across the country, are dealing with another shooting — this time at an elementary school.

"Once again, families are grieving the loss of children and others the loss of a mother who simply chose to be a teacher. No family should ever have to fear sending a loved one to school," Haglund said.

He also spoke about the \$10.7 million in Measure 11 funds to improve campus safety. Some of

See **WALKOUT** on Page 10

District, teachers ink new contract

Health benefits, salary bump are part of 3-year agreement

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton school board unanimously passed a new collective bargaining agreement between the district and the Association of Pleasanton Teachers that includes a 3.25% salary increase starting July 1 and new health benefits.

The terms are part of a tentative agreement covering the next three academic years, with a one-year settlement for the 2022-23 portion of the agreement. The estimated annual cost of the salary increase is estimated at \$3,261,460.

Starting July 1, the Pleasanton Unified School District will also offer health benefits for employees in line with CalPERS health benefits — a maximum of \$5,000 including all CalPERS-required contributions.

For next fiscal year, the district proposes a cash-in-lieu contribution of \$1,500 for any member not participating in the health benefits program and annual cash-in-lieu contribution of \$2,000 will also be available for any member not participating in the CalPERS health benefits program after July 1, 2023.

The estimated annual cost of the additional contribution to the medical or cash-in-lieu option is

See **TEACHERS** on Page 10

School board reviews disabilities learning programs

Also: LETRS system for elementary literacy, report on school resource officers

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Parents with children who have dyslexia pleaded with Pleasanton school board members last week to speed up the process of training teachers to better serve their students.

“We want these teachers to know what to do with our children who have these special learning disabilities,” Pleasanton resident Jamison Cummings told the trustees.

Cummings, alongside his daughter who has dyslexia and his wife, spoke during the May 26 board meeting following an update report on Pleasanton Unified School District’s Dyslexia Action Plan.

The plan, which started in 2017, has implemented training and curriculum to equip staff with the knowledge to better instruct and support students with disabilities, according to district staff.

One of the main criticisms of the plan many of the speakers voiced was why it is taking so long to implement things like the Wilson Reading System that has been around for years. The program is an intensive structured literacy instruction on helping students with disabilities such as dyslexia, learn how to read.

Cummings said his 13-year-old daughter Piper was one of the first in the program and has been with it in all her years in the district, but she has been struggling with getting the instruction she needs.

He also contended that he got treated with a lot of hostility after asking questions and said he found a culture in special education of not implementing programs properly and not collaborating with parents.

“We ask for help, we beg for help

and unfortunately what we found is that when we come to you, you then go to your administrators for the answers, but you don’t come back to us,” Cummings said.

He believes the program would be better if board members not only listen to experts, but parents as well, given that they have had to become experts in their own right after learning about all of the different resources and programs for their children.

“No family should have to work as hard as we’ve worked to advocate for our child,” Cummings said. “The school district, that is their job.”

He said he looks forward to the program to be fully implemented with fidelity, transparency and the intent to teach early.

School board members did share the same sentiment toward speeding up the process of training all special education teachers to get further in the Wilson training.

In the update to the board, director of special education Jeni Rickard said the goal for the district is to have every special education specialist to complete partial training during the 2022-23 school year.

“It really will take time for all of our teachers to be (fully) trained,” Rickard said.

However, Trustee Mary Jo Carreon and Board Vice President Steve Maher stressed the need for funding so that they can speed up the process.

“I’ve heard several letters today from parents who were very frustrated with Pleasanton ... they’re saying that they want to come back to Pleasanton, they haven’t got support because of dyslexia,” Carreon said.

But for parent Nancy Larson, who has two kids with dyslexia, there’s no time to waste.

“I witnessed my son in sixth grade go through terror in his first week because he hated school, nobody understood him. I saw a side of him that scared me,” Larson said. “He knows he has not been able to make it in this school district because he feels like everyone has been against him.”

‘No family should have to work as hard as we’ve worked to advocate for our child.’

Jamison Cummings,
Parent

She added that there’s especially a need to get to these kids before they experience behavioral problems because of how undiagnosed dyslexia can lead these kids to the streets and to prison.

“We can’t waste time, we need to get to these kids that can’t read ... get to it now, please,” Larson said.

In other business

- In addition to reviewing the dyslexia plan, the board was also updated on the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) program and the multiyear process to get teachers trained.

The program will be provided for all transitional kindergarten through fifth-grade classroom teachers, resource teachers and educational

specialists to help teach kids components of literacy instruction.

“LETRS is the perfect way for us to give our teachers, our practitioners the kind of access to this current, powerful research and evidence of what works in the classroom,” said Amanda Suraci, intervention specialist at Lydiksen Elementary School.

Andrea Carstenson, intervention specialist at Fairlands Elementary, added to that saying curriculums at schools are huge and meant to reach all kinds of needs. But lessons have to be flexible for students with disabilities.

“LETRS is not a curriculum, it’s a philosophy and it’s a practice. It helps teachers know which parts of their curriculum to pick and choose from based on assessments of their students,” she said.

Shay Galletti, director of elementary education, said it will take about five years to train everyone but transitional kindergarten teachers have already started and are already seeing progress.

- The board received an annual update and progress report on the school resource officer program, which sparked discussion on whether those police personnel should stay at schools and if so, should they be unarmed.

Student Board Member Saachi Bhayani was the most critical as she explained how she spoke to Foothill High School’s Black Student Union and how uncomfortable they feel with officers at school being armed.

According to Ed Diolazo, assistant superintendent of student support services, an officer’s tool belt is used to do their job and a gun is a part of their uniform but he said

they will continue to address that concern in future meetings.

Bhayani also criticized the fact that the data provided in the update, which showed how most students felt comfortable around cops, did not include data based on race and ethnicity.

This sparked heated discussion from board members on the need of even having officers at schools.

“As we have seen from recent events and continued events, having an armed officer on campus doesn’t protect you from an intruder who is intent on causing harm to students and staff,” Trustee Joan Laursen said. “It’s bad enough that we were afraid to send our kids to school because of a virus that we couldn’t see, and now we can’t send our children to school and be safe from a gunman.”

She stressed on the need to identify people who are becoming radicalized in white supremacy and how to protect students and staff from people who “go off the deep end and have access to guns.”

However, Carreon and Maher both agreed that the data is showing huge improvements on school counselors working with those resource officers and that removing them shouldn’t be an option. Rather, they should look to see what they can improve.

“In my own mind, I trust a police officer who has been trained in that area to handle that situation,” Maher said.

Board President Mark Miller said there needs to be more data and push to have students take surveys and voice concerns so that there can be more conversations around resource officers at schools. ■

Las Positas College employee recognized for work in equity

Scott seen as ‘go-to campus leader’ for supporting Black students

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Carolyn Scott, executive assistant to the vice president of academic services at Las Positas College in Livermore, was recently recognized with a Classified Employee of the Year Award for her work toward attaining equity for minority students.

The award has been given out annually since May 2009 to honor community college classified employees who are committed to achieving equitable student outcomes, serving the institution’s diverse student population and are leaders beyond their local institution, according to a statement from



Carolyn Scott

the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

Scott was formally awarded at the California Community College’s Board of Governors meeting last week.

“I’ve worked in higher education for 20 years, and each of those years has been full of adventure, joy, challenges and triumphs,” Scott told the Weekly.

“My dedication to this work is motivated by my deep commitment to see students succeed in reaching their educational goals. There are many students who struggle to do this, particularly students of color, because of the systemic barriers that impede upon their success,” she added.

Scott has worked at LPC for nearly 16 years and has been a voice for equitable outcomes for minority students.

She is a member of the Black Education Association, which sponsors events for Black History Month and Black graduation and has worked to create a supportive and welcoming environment for students at the college’s new Black Cultural Resource Center.

“I’ve experienced no greater joy in my career than those moments where I’ve been able to stand in the gap as an advocate, unofficial advisor, voice of reason, or voice of resistance for those who didn’t have the tools, resources, or platform to fight for themselves,” Scott said.

Scott volunteers at the resource center and spends time as a mentor in the college’s Connect UP program, which aims to empower and support first-year Black students.

Additionally, she serves on the President’s Advisory Council on

Race and Equity.

“Carolyn Scott is one of the most visible and impactful equity leaders on the Las Positas College campus,” CLPCCD Chancellor Ronald Gerhard said in a statement. “For over a decade, she has been a courageous voice for equitable outcomes for underrepresented students in our district — especially Black students.”

Scott has also served on the district’s Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Group, which works to diversify employee groups. Outside of LPC, Scott has been a member of the Village Demands Statewide Coalition on Black American Affairs, which is working to create a higher education system absent of anti-Blackness.

“Carolyn Scott is welcoming, a consummate professional and a wonderful mentor to faculty,

classified professionals, students and administrators,” California Community College Chancellor Eloy Ortiz said during the May 23 meeting. “She is a key source of institutional knowledge and is regarded as a go-to campus leader.”

Each of the seven recipients of the Classified Employee of the Year Awards, including Scott, will receive a \$750 cash award and a commemorative plaque.

“It’s an absolute honor to be recognized for work I do from my heart to support our students in their educational endeavors,” Scott said. “Winning this award encourages me to continue to strive for better educational outcomes. And I hope to continue to serve our students, campus and surrounding community in a way that promotes justice, unity, and success for all.” ■

VALLEY LINK

Continued from Page 5

is untimely.

"The environmental impact report was approved last year and there's a time period to challenge those documents and there was no legal challenge on the EIR," Sheridan said, adding that "if there are comments or concerns about a project, the appropriate time to address them is during the environmental process."

Sheridan is named as a defendant in the suit along with his predecessor, Michael Tree, who stepped down earlier this year

after spending five years on the Valley Link project.

While Sheridan said it's unfortunate that they have to spend time and resources defending the project in this lawsuit, he said that the project will continue to move forward as planned and he is confident that the litigation will not cause any delay to their timeline.

"We have in no way stopped doing what we're doing and we're making progress on this project," he said.

Once in service, Valley Link is expected to provide 74 daily round trips and to carry more

than 33,000 daily riders by 2040, eliminating 141 million vehicle miles traveled per year and up to 42,650 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition to the project's environmental benefits, Sheridan said that getting more cars off the road clears up more capacity for freight and goods movement for the supply chain because less commuters allows for more trucks to be able to move through the highway.

If the project continues on track, the first Valley Link trains could be placed into service in 2028. ■



VALLEY LINK

Rendering shows proposed connector station in the Tri-Valley for Valley Link and BART.

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Pleasanton launching Summer Reading Program

Events all season long around theme of 'Read Beyond the Beaten Path'

BY PLEASANTON WEEKLY STAFF

The Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department is set to kick off the free Summer Reading Program this Saturday to coincide with the beginning of the summer vacation for community students and continue through Aug. 7.

City librarian Katie DeLang said the in-person event after two years is garnering excitement.

"We're bringing a lot of our programs back to the library," DeLang said. "This is especially true for anybody who has kids that are a storytime age and we're just looking to continue to promote reading throughout the summer."

Themed "Read Beyond the Beaten Path," the Summer Reading Program promises fun-filled experiences for readers of all ages.

According to DeLang, it helps to bring the program to the community and to other parts of Pleasanton through games like cornhole, creating our own obstacle course and more.

"We're gonna play this really fun game, kind of like musical chairs. It's called 'drip drip trap' where instead of running around chairs, you have a super wet sponge," she said. "You play music and then if it stops and you're holding the sponge you have to squeeze all the water onto your head."

The games and activities give kids an opportunity to go outside the

library and also bring it to different parts of the community.

"A great example of this is our Tuesday pop-up games where we will be going out to different parts in Pleasanton and having games for a couple of hours," DeLang said.

The theme further focuses on camping, including classic summer camp activities like crafts and exploring nature, specialty camps like space camp and beyond.

"This year's Summer Reading Program provides endless opportunities for creativity, connection, and life-long learning," said Cherie Buenafior, a library programs coordinator. "Whether it's learning how to draw comics, making special camp-related crafts, or simply reading a book about the great outdoors, we're happy to encourage reading beyond the beaten path at the library this summer."

Community members of all ages will be encouraged to join the department in its mission, "Start your journey here: Discover, connect, enjoy," according to organizers.

As part of its strategic plan, the department aims to remain committed to identifying and enhancing programming to encourage exploration, intellectual curiosity and life-long literacy.

Children earn rewards and virtual badges by tracking their reading hours throughout the summer using the Beanstack website and app. It's

not just limited to kids but teens and adults can join in the fun by logging in their reading hours for a chance to win prizes.

"If they read for 15 hours, everyone gets a free book. And we also have our community goal of reading 1 million minutes," by logging hours through the Beanstack app, according to DeLang.

A new feature this year is the opportunity for all participants to "vote" for a new library card design and earn an extra raffle ticket. All program events and prizes for children, teens and adults are sponsored by the Friends of the Pleasanton Library.

Program activities will include craft afternoons, pop-up camp games around Pleasanton parks, and special performances at the Pleasanton Library, the Firehouse Arts Center and the Amador Theater.

The first 100 participants to sign up will receive a special prize and family entertainer Brian Scott will perform his special "Biblio Spectacular" magic show, encouraging families to find magic by reading beyond the beaten path.

Special performances and presenters will continue all summer long, for all ages. For children and families, Creatures of Impulse will present "Made to Order Fairy Tale" and the Pleasanton Youth Drama Camps will present a special showcase of original works, as well as a preview of "Stinky Cheese Man the Musical."



FILE PHOTO

The Pleasanton Public Library on Old Bernal Avenue in downtown.

For teens, Camp NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) will challenge young novelists to finish writing a novel in one month, starting with a pre-writing workshop on June 25 and ending with a visit by award-winning author Maggie Toku-da Hall.

Additionally, for teens, comic book artist Oliver Chin will teach participants about the art of making comics and city staff will share some scary, and not-so-scary campfire stories at the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

Adults are invited to listen to the folk stylings of High School Music Collaborative alumni Lauryl Marie at the Firehouse. And finally, participants of all ages are invited to visit Middle Earth for the Peripatetic Players in their special two-part "Lord of the Rings" parody show.

"We are so excited for our annual summer reading program this year," DeLang said. "We know how much our community has wanted opportunities to gather in person and we are looking forward to hosting a variety of weekly programs in the Pleasanton Library and around the city."

"Really we're just looking to engage in the community and explore the great outdoors when we can and then just promote lots of reading," she added.

Participants can sign up for the "Read Beyond the Beaten Path" reading program through the Pleasanton Library. The reading logs to track reading for prizes are digital, with print versions available at the library, including reading log options in multiple languages. To learn more, visit www.pleasantonlibrary.org. ■

Tri-Valley Conservancy pushes ballot initiative for sewer line expansion

Livermore city staff to return to council with finalized language soon

BY CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore voters may find a new environmental initiative on their ballots come November, proposed by the Tri-Valley Conservancy regarding a sewer line expansion into the unincorporated South Livermore Valley.

The Livermore City Council last week discussed the TVC's amended language for a ballot initiative, which would allow the city to extend sanitary sewer service beyond the urban growth boundary to serve wine country uses, according to the city staff report.

In November 2021, city staff presented draft language for the initiative and the council directed staff to modify the verbiage. Staff presented the updated version to the council on May 23. All five councilmembers expressed support for moving the ballot initiative forward and directed staff to prioritize clarity in the finalized version of the language with consideration to suggestions from the community and stakeholders.

"I do believe that getting the language right is critically important to getting this passed," Councilmember

Trish Munro said. "I believe that if that's not the case we may have a problem with the representation of the initiative," she added while asking staff to make sure that the finalized language is "as clear and airtight as possible."

Councilmember Bob Carling echoed similar sentiments about making sure the language is clear. "I think to work and provide as much clarity as possible at this point would certainly be encouraged by me," he said, noting that they may not be able to avoid unintended consequences that arise in the future but they could do the best job possible now to prevent them.

Some of the community suggestions made during public comment at the meeting included clarifying the entirety of who the sewer extension will serve beyond wineries (including residents who live on Buena Vista Avenue), clarifying the restrictions for visitor-serving commercial uses, such as restaurants and tasting rooms, and addressing the impact to the Bottleneck Project located west of the project site that was identified in

the 2017 Sewer Master Plan.

The land-use restrictions put in place by the South Livermore Valley Area Plan and Measure D — passed two decades ago to protect open space — would remain in effect with the sewer line expansion.

'I do believe that getting the language right is critically important to getting this passed.'

Trish Munro,
City Council member

However, because the sewer line would cross the voter-approved South Livermore urban growth boundary, voters would need to approve the sewer line expansion for the plan to move forward.

If approved by voters, the extended sewer line would protect the groundwater from contamination and allow a limited expansion of wine country-related businesses in the area, according to a statement from TVC.

"Providing sewer services to homes and businesses located in the tourism core of unincorporated South Livermore Valley is a straightforward solution that would help prevent contamination from existing and future wine country uses," Lori Souza, chair of the TVC Board of Directors, said in a statement.

According to TVC, the construction of the proposed sewer line expansion project would have no direct impact on Livermore taxpayers, and the city has affirmed its existing wastewater system has the capacity to process the additional wastewater.

The cost of construction would be split between Alameda County, which would contribute \$6.5 million — 80% of the funds needed — and commercial and residential properties that choose to connect to the new sewer line.

"A vibrant wine country is key to maintaining the South Livermore Valley's community character and agriculture economy," said Mark Triska, chair of the TVC's Land Conservation Committee.

"Right now, many vintners haul

wastewater offsite at great expense, and new wine operations are hesitant to locate here because of the lack of wastewater treatment options," he said. "Without a healthy agriculture economy, the pressure will grow to develop open space in ways that go against the spirit of the South Livermore Valley Area Plan. Extending Livermore's sewer line would address this problem."

The city released a draft supplemental environmental impact report for the proposed project on May 6. The public comment period is open until 5 p.m. on June 20.

Following last week's direction, staff is set to return at a future meeting this summer with environmental documents and final ballot language for council certification and authorization.

Once the official ballot initiative language has been finalized and the environmental review process has been completed, the city will have the option to place the initiative on the November ballot. The deadline for including the initiative in this fall's election is in September. ■



People attend a vigil at San Jose City Hall on May 27, 2021, for the nine men killed at the Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority rail yard in San Jose a day earlier

JANA KADAH/BCN

Officials mourn anniversary of VTA shooting as families file suit

Vigil held for employees killed in maintenance yard, including Dublin man

South Bay officials last week mourned the one-year anniversary of the shooting at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority's San Jose maintenance yard that left nine VTA employees dead, including a Dublin man.

On the same day, eight of the families affected filed a lawsuit against the VTA, Santa Clara County, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and the security company tasked with protecting the rail yard.

Officials with the VTA and the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 265, which represents VTA workers, held a candlelight vigil on the morning of May 26 to remember the nine workers who were killed at the rail maintenance yard on West Younger Avenue.

The workers killed in the shooting were Dublin resident Jose Hernandez III, 35, Abdojlavah Alaghmandan, 63, Adrian Balleza, 29, Lars Lane, 63, Michael Rudometkin, 40, Paul Megia, 42, Taptejeep Singh, 36, Timothy Romo, 49, and Alex Fritch, 49.

A 10th worker, Henry Gonzales, was found dead in his home in August of an apparent suicide after witnessing the shooting.

"The cruel act of one individual has shattered so many families and impacted all of us with the loss of our colleagues and friends," VTA General Manager Carolyn Gonot said. "As a family, we've tried our best to deal with this tragedy."

Earlier last month, the VTA demolished the building at the rail yard where a disgruntled VTA employee began the shooting and killed six of the nine workers who died at the rail yard.

VTA's Power and Signal teams

had worked in the building before the shooting, but it has remained vacant since then.

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo noted in a statement that the shooting was the deadliest in Bay Area history.

"May 26, 2021, irrevocably changed San Jose, and it stole something from each of us," he said. "But in the days that followed, we pulled together as one community, supporting our friends and neighbors, uplifting the memories of those who have left us too soon, and carrying those still here through their journey to healing."

The families of Fritch, Megia, Rudometkin, Singh, Alaghmandan, Hernandez, Romo and Lane announced lawsuits on May 26 against the VTA, Santa Clara County, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and the security company tasked with protecting the rail yard, Universal Protection Service, for allegedly failing to investigate or take action after workers complained about the shooter's actions while at work.

According to Trial Lawyers for Justice, the law firm representing Lane's family, the shooter had a "pattern of insubordination" and had been involved in multiple altercations with co-workers prior to the shooting.

VTA workers had also agreed that the shooter, 57-year-old Sam Cassidy, would be the staff member most likely to "go postal."

"By failing to act, VTA gave a man with known and dangerous propensities access to 379 employees at the yard," Eva Silva, the attorney representing Lane's family, said in a statement. "Nine of them

are dead as a result."

In three separate lawsuits, the victims' families argued that the VTA agreed to a \$50 million security contract with the sheriff's office and Universal Protection Service, both of which allegedly failed to conduct proper security screening, risk mitigation efforts and surveillance.

The VTA said in a statement that it would address the claims of the lawsuits "at a more appropriate time."

"VTA is focusing on the continued healing of our employees, and the families of our deceased co-workers," the transit agency said. "Tragically, we are also mourning the loss of the dozens of other victims of hate-filled massacres that have happened throughout the nation."

Spokespersons for the sheriff's office and the Santa Clara County Counsel's Office both declined to comment, citing the lawsuits as "pending litigation."

A spokesperson for Universal Protection Service did not respond to a request for comment.

At the memorial last week, ATU Local 265 President John Courtney called for VTA executives to improve working conditions at the transit agency in an effort to ensure that employees can "know that they're not going to be harmed or assaulted."

"Systemically, we face a monster," Courtney said. "A monster at VTA that wasn't created overnight. It's not going to be fixed in a year, but God darn it it's going to be fixed if it's the last thing that we do." ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

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Iron Horse Trail gap closed in Livermore

Project is first of four planned to connect pedestrians, cyclists to destinations around city

By CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Livermore, Zone 7 Water Agency and Living Arroyos program recently held a ceremony to celebrate the opening of a new segment of the Iron Horse Regional Trail on the south side of the Arroyo Mocho channel between Isabel Avenue and Murrieta Boulevard.

The trail improvements close the one-mile gap in the Iron Horse Trail between Isabel Avenue and the existing trail segment behind the Heritage Estates senior care property on Stanley Boulevard, city officials said in a statement.

The project included approximately 5,000 feet of a 10-foot-wide asphalt concrete trail with 2-foot shoulders and a new multi-use pedestrian/bicycle bridge that spans across Murrieta Boulevard and connects to the existing trail east of

Murrieta Boulevard, which officials expect will provide safe crossing for trail users.

“The new segment of Iron Horse Trail between Isabel Avenue and Murrieta Boulevard provides local residential neighborhood families, the nearby senior community at Heritage Estates, and venturing visitors with a safe and accessible, paved multi-use trail to be active all year round while enjoying the natural beauty of the recently completed habitat conservation corridor along Arroyo Mocho,” city officials told Livermore Vine in an email.

The location of the Iron Horse Trail project aligned with work Zone 7 had planned for flood control channel improvements, referred to as the Arroyo Mocho Stanley Reach stabilization project.

The city and Zone 7 worked

together to accommodate construction of both projects. Zone 7’s project transformed about 0.3 miles of the existing flood protection channel to now include natural streamside vegetation and bank stabilization.

Volunteers from Living Arroyos — a multi-agency partnership that includes the city of Livermore, Zone 7, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, and the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin — are maintaining the vegetation enhancements at the site. The program focuses on enhancing and maintaining the urban streams and streamside habitats of the Livermore and Amador valleys, according to its website.

About two dozen people attended the May 17 event that marked the Iron Horse Trail segment’s official opening, including representatives from the Zone 7 Water Board of



CITY OF LIVERMORE

Livermore city officials, Zone 7 reps and community members gathered to celebrate the Iron Horse Regional Trail project’s completion.

Directors and Livermore City Council members Brittini Kiick and Bob Carling. Outgoing city manager Marc Roberts was also in attendance along with his successor, Marianna Marysheva.

This Iron Horse Trail project is the first of four planned projects in Livermore that will connect pedestrians and cyclists to transit centers, parks, schools, downtown and other destinations. ■

TEACHERS

Continued from Page 5

estimated at \$1,814,000 in 2022-23 and increasing an additional \$300,000 in 2023-24.

Trustee Joan Laursen said it’s essential to add medical benefits for employees to better attract and retain new employees.

“The district for years did not provide any medical benefits for teachers because the teachers union voted years and years ago to put those benefits on the salary schedule, which at the time was a good deal for the employees,” Laursen said at the May 12 regular meeting.

She added that it was a barrier for hiring new teachers when they

saw the district did not offer any health benefits.

“Having our contract settled earlier in the year has allowed our educators to focus on their passion and work for educating and supporting Pleasanton students,” APT secretary Cheryl Atkins said during the meeting. “We hope this will be a trend that will continue; it shows belief and support in our educators and our students.”

At a special meeting one week

later, the Board of Trustees also signed off on a new program designed to incentivize employees to consider retiring, as part of a cost-reduction strategy for the district.

The Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) Supplementary Retirement Plan is a retirement incentive program that essentially save the district money by encouraging employees who are close to retirement to leave.

Employees who are eligible for

retirement are paid more and employees who are new hires are generally paid less because they are in the beginning of their salary schedule. Having longer-tenured teachers retire and create openings for new teachers would result in potential savings for the district.

Board members unanimously passed the program because they all shared the same thought process, which was to maintain newer teachers in a time of low enrollment. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and has issued Executive Order N-29-20 and approved AB 361 suspending provisions of the Brown Act allowing meetings via teleconferencing and members of the public to observe and offer comments telephonically or electronically. The meeting will be held at the City Council Chamber – 200 Old Bernal Ave., via video/teleconference and will be broadcast live on Channel 29 and at <https://www.tri-valleytv.org> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>.

- **Public Hearing** – Adopt a resolution to update the Tri-Valley Transportation Development Fee
- **Public Hearing** – Approve the traffic mitigation measures improvement plans for the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone, review the final cost estimate for the traffic mitigation improvement plans, approve first amendment to the Transportation Improvement and Cost Allocation agreement to reflect the final cost estimate, and approve purchase agreements to acquire public right-of-way necessary to construct to the traffic mitigation measures
- Introduce and waive the first reading of the Ordinance approving the Pleasanton Police Department’s Military Equipment Use Policy and Equipment List pursuant to requirements of AB 481.

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, June 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at City of Pleasanton Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA, 94566

- Review and Recommend the Temporary Installation and Location of Public Art Murals
- Review and Discuss Commission Request to Establish a Civic Arts Grant Subcommittee
- Review and Comment on Library and Recreation Department Quarterly Report for January – March 2022

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



CHUCK DECKERT

Memorial Day in Pleasanton

Pleasanton residents joined community leaders and veteran organizations to honor and remember fallen military service members at the city’s Memorial Day observance ceremony on Monday morning outside the Senior Center. The well-attended service, organized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 and American Legion Post 237, featured a keynote address by U.S. Army Col. Serena Johnson.

WALKOUT

Continued from Page 5

these improvements are new fencing to limit entry when school is in session as well as security cameras and modern communication, alarm and intercom systems.

“In total, we will have invested \$14.9 million in safety-related improvements by the end of 2022. The district office and each school site have comprehensive safety plans in place that outline staff and student training and related drills to ensure individuals know what to do and where to go in the event of an emergency,” Haglund said.

He added that there is support available to staff, students and families in the forms of wellness centers, school psychologists, social workers and student assistance program specialists. He said that the district is also working with the Pleasanton Police Department on training and monthly safety drills.

“I look forward to engaging our community in ongoing efforts to support safety on our campuses so that our students and our staff can maintain their focus on teaching and learning that is anchored in our classrooms,” Haglund said. “Our children need us to be engaged, and to do much, much more than offer our thoughts and prayers.” ■

Highlighting Native American creativity, culture

By JEREMY WALSH

The Bankhead Art Gallery is showcasing works from some of the area's most talented artists of Native American descent now through July.

The new exhibit, entitled "The Artists Among Us: Native People Today," began its run in downtown Livermore this week and will commemorate its opening with a community reception on Saturday afternoon that aims to be "a true celebration of Native culture," according to Bankhead officials.

"The artists for the exhibit are from the Bay Area and beyond, representing different tribes and all visually representing their life experiences as Native artists," gallery officials said.

As for the community celebration this weekend, "There will be powwow dancers and live musicians on the Bankhead Plaza stage — colorful and dramatic, the dancers will demonstrate many dances and showcase their regalia," officials said, adding:

"In addition, there will be a tipi maker in front of the Bankhead that will be presenting an educational talk and demonstration on the tradition of tipi building and its close association with the arts and the many aspects behind the customs of creating these artistic dwellings."

The two-month exhibit originated from Livermore Valley Arts representatives working with Mary Puthoff of the Livermore American Indian Center to connect with Native artists whose works represent Native culture in all of its contemporary forms.

The concept centered on bringing to Livermore "an exhibit that tells the story that Native people are here and around us and that most have a keen artistic sense, some creating art in formal manners such as oil on canvas and others incorporating artistic sensibility in their craft and everyday lives," officials said.

Pieces on display include "Stay in Touch" by John Balloue, "Big River Scene" by California Native Glass and "First Contact," an artwork borrowed from the California Indian Heritage Center Foundation created by Alicia Maria Siu, Antonio Moreno, Vicente Moreno and Vicente Teoxiutleko Moreno.

Those works, and others, can be viewed regularly from 1-5 p.m.



Thursdays through Sundays as well as for ticketed patrons of the Bankhead Theater during performances now through July 31.

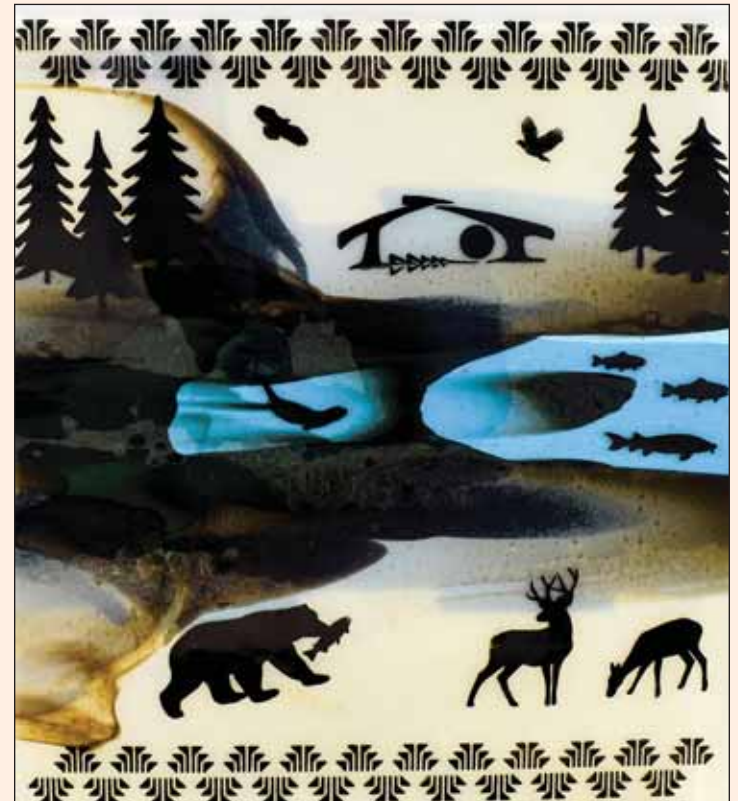
The exhibit will also be highlighted this Saturday (June 4) from 1-4 p.m. during a free Native culture celebration presented in conjunction with the Livermore American Indian Center.

East Coast indigenous storyteller Dovie Thomason, known for her stories of the First Nations, will be making an appearance at the event.

"Thomason will paint a picture of her own richly textured family story, and reflect on the value of storytelling in transmitting cultural memory, the importance of how to

listen, and the role stories can, and do, play in making sense of the world in which we live," officials said.

They added, "The public is invited to share in this powerful exhibit and opening reception, performance, and activities, to honor the Native peoples on whose land we live." ■



Artworks on display in the new exhibit "The Artists Among Us: Native People Today" include this work from California Native Glass (top left), "Big River Scene" (right) and "Stay in Touch" by John Balloue (bottom left). Images courtesy Livermore Valley Arts.

'Building a New World'

Symphony closing season this weekend

By PATRICIA J. BOYLE

Livermore-Amador Symphony's final concert this season, "Building a New World," will take place on Saturday at Livermore's Bankhead Theater, conducted by music director Lara Webber.

The concert features "Listening to the Land," by Zhou Tian, Sergei Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 with soloist Frederic Chiu and Antonin Dvorak's "New World Symphony."

Tian is a Chinese American composer who was nominated for a Grammy Award for his work

"Composition for Orchestra." His moving elegy "Listening to the Land" is a movement from Tian's suite "Broken Ink." It was inspired by a Song Dynasty poem by Xin Qiji about lost love.

The orchestra is excited to welcome pianist Chiu, an exceptional interpreter of the music of Prokofiev. Chiu is a full-time professor of piano at Carnegie Mellon University, as well as an adjunct professor at the Hartt School of Music. He is an acclaimed innovator and an engaging and virtuosic pianist.

Prokofiev's colorful Piano

Concerto No. 3 is the most often performed of his five piano concertos. It was written over a period of 10 years (1911-1921) while the composer was in exile from his native Russia. The concerto is by turns haunting, lively, poetic and bright.

Czech composer Dvorak wrote his popular "New World Symphony" in 1893 while in New York City, serving as the director of the National Conservatory of Music of America. Native American music and African American spirituals influenced the music Dvorak wrote while he was in North America.

The symphony premiered at Carnegie Hall, and a recording of it was aboard Apollo 11, which made the first moon landing in 1969.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. Saturday (June 4), with a prelude talk at 7:00 p.m. For updates, check www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org. For tickets, visit the Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St. in Livermore, 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.



Soloist Frederic Chiu (shown) will perform Sergei Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 at the Livermore-Amador Symphony concert on June 4.

Staying Healthy

SUMMER 2022

Inside:

Walking across America
Mother turns to activism

Page 13
Page 14



The new Axis health center on West Las Positas Boulevard opened on March 14, 2016, doubling the nonprofit provider's service capacity.

AXIS

50 years of affordable health care

Axis Community Health marks milestone anniversary, eyes expanded services into future

By JEREMY WALSH

To provide quality, affordable, accessible and compassionate health care services that promote the well-being of all members of the community."

The mission statement of Axis Community Health may seem simple enough, but the effort to fulfill that vital vision day in and day out remains anything but.

One of the most important non-profit organizations in the Tri-Valley, Axis this year is celebrating its 50th anniversary of serving the region's most in-need residents — folks who would often otherwise fall through the cracks of the mainstream health care system, primarily for financial reasons.

"More than 15,000 Tri-Valley residents are served by Axis, through services that include medical and dental care, behavioral health, a WIC

nutrition program and a variety of services that extend out into the community and at local schools," longtime CEO Sue Compton, who is retiring this month, told the Weekly.

"Throughout its incredible history and evolution as a community health center, Axis has remained true to its mission of providing high quality care for all members of the community, regardless of income, language or any other factor," Compton said.

James Paxson, current chair of the Axis Board of Directors, added, "The trajectory of Axis over the last 50 years in terms of providing a fundamental community service to address the health care needs of the most vulnerable in the Tri-Valley is nothing short of astounding."

Indeed the origins of Axis Community Health certainly fit the bill of the proverbial humble beginnings.



CHUCK DECKERT

See **AXIS** on Page 15

Axis Community Health held its 50th anniversary celebration last month in Pleasanton.

Walking across America

Pleasanton woman writes book about completing half-marathons in every state

By MELISSA MCKENZIE

Pleasanton resident Patricia Vicary has accomplished a true feat of endurance: she has not only completed at least one half-marathon in every state and Washington, D.C., but she has written a book about her experience.

In “Power Walk!: My Step by Step Journey to Competitions Across America,” which is part guide and part travel log, Vicary, 64, approaches the subject of long distance power walking with humor and insight into what it takes to plan and complete a visit to and race in every state.

Whether it’s following a race caravan to finish four races in four days or traveling across the United States by train, Vicary details her experiences walking throughout the country, and at one point, briefly into Canada, in her book.

“It’s a light read,” she said. “There’s so much crazy stuff that happens — things with porta potties at the races and airplanes you end up on that have you thinking you’re not going to make it. So, hopefully, it’s told with some humor and relatability, but also it’s motivational at the same time.”

As a child, Vicary said she was not athletic and went to great lengths, even at the expense of failing PE, to avoid participating in organized activity.

It wasn’t until college, while sidestepping a science course requirement, Vicary enrolled in a foundations of physical education class. In that class, she was forced into the movement

she had avoided for so long, as the course included a lab requiring students to run three a week. Vicary’s outlook on movement began to shift and she went from shying away from physical activity to willingly participating in it.

Vicary found flexibility in running and enjoyed being outdoors, but as she entered her 40s she realized running was no longer serving her body properly. She, again, had to shift her outlook.

“Over time I found that my body wasn’t happy with the results of running,” she said. “You end up with physical problems. When I was in my 40s, I started to power walk instead and the great thing about power walking is it gave me all the benefits of running, and I got to be outside and have the flexibility of if I was doing it solo or with a group of people. But it didn’t have all of the pounding on my hips and knees and back.”

Vicary soon joined a couple online power walking groups and started racing more, focusing mostly on half-marathons. She finished her first out-of-state race, the Nike Women’s Half Marathon in Washington, D.C., as a power walker in 2013. Vicary continued signing up for races occurring while she was traveling, but didn’t initially set out to complete a race in each of the 50 states.

“The (year after D.C.), I did a race in Utah, Oregon and Washington in collaboration with trips,” Vicary said. “So, I was slowly doing it, but it wasn’t until I hit state 15 that I became serious about it. I enjoyed traveling and

thankfully my family was indulgent with me. It eventually flip-flopped and I went from doing a race where I was on vacation to building my vacation around the race.”

Throughout 2019, she crossed 20 states off her list. However, with just three states left, Vicary found herself stuck when the COVID-19 pandemic caused races and travel to temporarily cease. It was during that time she decided to take the power walking blog she was keeping and transform it into what would become her book.

“It grew out of a blog just talking about my adventures power walking all over the place,” she said, adding, “I hope people will find it motivating to switch up the exercise program they’re currently doing and they’ll find some entertainment value in following my adventure.”

Vicary said she keeps herself motivated by limiting her walks to three times a week, supplementing her walking with barre workouts and giving herself one rest day.

Her next goal, she said, is finishing 100 half-marathons, which she expects to complete this October in Portland. And, while her current race pace is about 12:30 — faster than some people run — Vicary said she simply wants people to enjoy moving.

“I’m 64 years old and I’m still doing it,” she said “I’m not some amazing miracle specimen and I think that’s one of the things people will get out of this. It’s such an accessible form of exercise and something people can do



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Patricia Vicary, after taking part in a PPIE Run for Education.

throughout their lives.

“Whether you’re doing a 15, 16, 17 or more minute pace, it’s all good,” she continued. “Just get out there and enjoy it and have fun.”

“Power Walk!: My Step by Step Journey to Competitions Across America” is available on Amazon in paperback and ebook form. Signed copies can also be purchased locally at Towne Center Books on Main Street in Pleasanton. ■

Saturday, June 18 at 9 a.m.

Alameda County Fairgrounds

The race is open to runners of all abilities and gives participants the chance to run around the racetrack, through the fairgrounds, and enjoy various fun at the stopping points along the way.

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Livermore mom turns to activism during son's drug battle

Mothers Against Drug Deaths seeks to humanize addiction, highlight risks of fentanyl crisis

By JEANITA LYMAN

Jacqui Berlinn had been quiet about her son, Corey Sylvester's, battle with drug addiction, until a picture she saw on social media — and the comments on it — made her stop short and drove her to break her silence.

"My son's been an addict on the streets with some stints of sobriety for about 10 years now," Berlinn said. "One day I was scrolling on Facebook and came across 'BART Rants and Raves,' and there was someone passed out on BART. And people were making comments about 'what a useless human being' and all that ... and I looked closer at the photo, and I realized it was my son."

Berlinn, a Livermore resident, said that the image, and the insults in the comments that ensued, stuck in her head. She wasn't able to let them go.

"I had to say that's my son, and as soon as I said that it completely changed the tone of the conversation," Berlinn said. "I think just humanizing my son made people start saying 'I'm so sorry' ... they just looked at him differently."

"That was a huge change, just claiming him as a son that I love," Berlinn added.

A mother's perspective

Berlinn said that Sylvester had struggled with anxiety and depression early on, as well as attention deficit disorder (ADD) and processing troubles that made reading in school difficult and led to self-esteem issues.

"He started to self medicate, I think from his mind always spinning and always going," Berlinn said. "He started smoking marijuana in high school, and things just kind of snowballed from there."

Berlinn said that her son, who she continues to have a close relationship with and speaks to regularly, despite his struggles with addiction on the streets of San Francisco, told her about his first experience with hard drugs, when he finally accepted a high school girlfriend's offer at the then-Livermore Honey and Wine Festival.

"When I found out he smoked heroin at the Honey and Wine Fest in Livermore, I was just so surprised that it was in our city," Berlinn said. "I guess I was ignorant at the time and I don't really blame parents about being ignorant, because I was too. But that's why, as a mom, why I feel I need to speak out."

After the Facebook post that first led Berlinn to speak up about her son, she began to do more research and be more outspoken on social media. She ultimately caught the attention of Berkeley activist and author Michael Shellenberger, who interviewed her for his 2021 book

"San Fransicko."

When Shellenberger asked if she was interested in activism surrounding drug addiction amid the increasingly dangerous landscape fentanyl paints for users, Berlinn said she had initially been taken aback, never having seen herself as an activist. Ultimately, however, with Shellenberger's encouragement, she made her first foray into the activist arena.

"So I started Stop Fentanyl Deaths, because when we were talking about the book, I said I was upset that dealers were just allowed to sell so openly on the streets of San Francisco without any pressure. So I said I want to go protest and tell them to stop selling to my son," Berlinn said.

Berlinn's early organization rallied in downtown San Francisco last year to call for addressing issues that they saw within the city's Tenderloin Linkage Center. In particular, Berlinn and other activists were concerned about drug use and sales continuing to be allowed in the facility, which they said they had previously been optimistic about.

"We were very excited, but they were allowing drug use and sales in there," Berlinn said. "So we protested against the drug use in the linkage center, not the linkage center, but the drug use in the linkage center."

Berlinn said that counter-protesters arrived at the event, but that they were confused about her group's aims.

These earlier efforts ultimately led Berlinn to find other mothers going through similar circumstances — and to the founding of Mothers Against Drug Deaths late last year.

"I think mothers are absolutely huge in this because we can humanize our children, and we love our children, and we know them in a way that no one else knows them," Berlinn said. "And I know who my son is. I know he's funny, and kind, and thoughtful and smart."

Berlinn noted that this perspective is not one taken into account in most people's initial reaction to homeless people struggling with addiction on the streets.

"I think that mothers can stand up for their children and say you know what, my child is sick and he needs help," Berlinn said.

Media attention

Although more and more attention has been centered on the rise of fentanyl recently, amid a more than 1,000% rise nationwide in overdose deaths from the dangerous drug, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Berlinn said that her organization's focus is on a more holistic picture of the risk of drugs in the 21st century.

"We're not only talking about fentanyl, but we're against deaths by all drugs. And what I noticed when I

started looking into this activity is what San Francisco does, so they go on their harm reduction," Berlinn said. "It's ... enabling. They don't talk enough about recovery. They talk a lot about how to keep using and staying alive — and some of that is good, and I do believe in Narcan and clean needles — but I don't believe in removing all pressures on addicts and dealers."

Berlinn said her stance came from personal experience, and that MADD's efforts wound up centered in San Francisco due to it being a common factor in where members either lived or had addicted children on the streets. This focus, and the group's scrutiny of San Francisco officials leading with Mayor London Breed, resulted in a high-profile billboard in the city.

"After about three months, Mayor Breed decided to end her declaration of emergency that she had declared and we were like, 'What are you doing? Nothing's changed,'" Berlinn said. "And on top that she goes to Europe and tells people, 'Come to San Francisco, it's a great place to visit.'"

After some fundraising, Berlinn's group paid for a billboard reading "Famous the world over for our brains, beauty and, now, dirt-cheap fentanyl" to be displayed for a month over San Francisco's Union Square. Although the effort garnered widespread media attention, Berlinn said that tangible effects on the ground from Breed and other officials were still lacking.

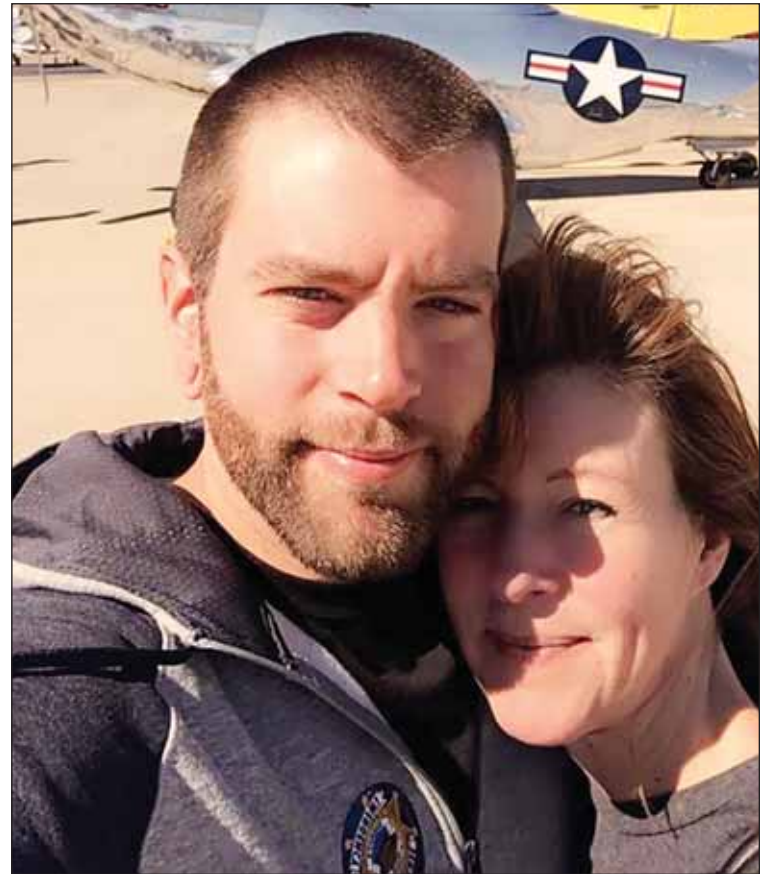
"We got a lot of press around that, and we were hoping something would change, but Mayor Breed didn't really do a whole lot differently," Berlinn said.

Despite the media attention, Berlinn said she was discouraged that outlets such as MSNBC and CNN hadn't picked up the story, while conservative outlets such as Fox News were. However, she said she was eager to educate parents and children through any platform available.

"I did Tucker Carlson not because I'm a huge fan of him, but because I believe the families who watch Tucker Carlson, their children deserve to hear the message as well," Berlinn said.

Berlinn said the motivation for her and others at MADD, despite their scrutiny of policies in San Francisco amid a surge of unflattering right-wing media attention to the city and surrounding area, was entirely non-partisan. And they were frustrated by a landscape in which drug addiction is painted as a polarizing issue.

"This is a nonpartisan issue," Berlin said. "It has nothing to do with liberals or conservatives. It has to do with saving lives, and it's very frustrating to me that we can't get on



COURTESY JACQUI BERLINN

Jacqui Berlinn still talks to her son Corey Sylvester regularly amid his addiction struggles. She said he knows the work she's doing and is supportive.

these news channels that think all we're trying to do is put down the liberal leadership, and that's absolutely not what we're doing."

"I try to explain to people that we're just trying to save lives, and I'm not saying that one political person is better than another, but I can definitely say that the policies that are lenient and enabling that I'm seeing in San Francisco are not helpful, and my son would even say that," Berlinn added.

Berlinn said that while she and others in MADD see policies in San Francisco as enabling users rather than contending with the root causes of addiction, they are well aware of the delicacy of treating mental health and addiction issues.

In her experience though, Berlinn said that harsher penalties had been more effective for Sylvester.

"The times where I was able to get my son to go into rehab was when he'd been arrested and he had a couple of days in jail, and he got sober and got some clarity," Berlinn said. "Is arresting addicts the best choice? No. Is putting pressure on them so they can choose rehab over jail a good choice? Yes. So I would like to see mandatory rehab for repeat offenders."

Taking the fight to Sacramento and beyond

Having recognized Breed's limitations as mayor to contend with an issue ravaging the state and nation both, Berlinn said that she and MADD were now directing their

efforts further up, with a new billboard in Sacramento.

"We believe honestly that it's not something (Breed) can even fix on her own, so we thought OK we'll go to the governor. Maybe he has some resources and he can step in and he can give her the resources she might need," Berlinn said. "That's why we did the billboard in Sacramento calling on Newsom to close the open air drug markets in all of California as well as San Francisco."

The shift in focus toward the state and nation, rather than concentrating efforts in San Francisco, comes as fentanyl continues making its way to the surrounding areas, including the Tri-Valley, Berlinn said.

"I work in Oakland, and I mean, I see the fingers of what's going on in San Francisco slowly reaching into the counties surrounding San Francisco," Berlinn said. "My son tells me he sees more and more high school-aged students come into the city and buy fentanyl and bring it back with them."

In Berlinn's view, the rise of fentanyl, as well as increasing acceptance for prescription drugs and marijuana legalization, have led today's youth to be less afraid of drugs, despite fentanyl making them riskier than ever, making conversations with kids as young as pre-teens necessary.

"It definitely needs to be started in middle school sadly, and I think in middle school because marijuana

See **ACTIVISM** on Page 15

AXIS

Continued from Page 12

Recognizing the need to provide pediatric care to low-income children in eastern Alameda County and southern Contra Costa County, a grassroots group known as the Health Care Concerns Committee formally incorporated as a nonprofit agency in 1972 to bring their vision into reality.

Their first clinic, serving kids who had no other access to health care, operated out of a small house on Spring Street in downtown Pleasanton under the leadership of founding director Birdie Bianchi.

"Its 'startup' funds totaled \$800," Compton said, looking back at the organization's history. "The clinic grew slowly in the early years and, as services expanded to include adults, it moved over to a small apartment complex on Railroad Avenue."

The relocated Valley Community Health Center would offer adult medical care, women's health services and a women, infants and children (WIC) nutrition program in the heart of downtown Pleasanton.

As the calendar turned to a new

decade and the need in the Tri-Valley kept growing, the nonprofit positioned itself to increase services with a senior support program and mental health counseling. By the latter part of the 1980s, a satellite clinic opened in Livermore, in the city's Multi-Service Building.

The organization continued to serve those in need and diversified its programs as opportunities arose as the 20th century became the 21st, including rebranding as Axis Community Health in 2004, renovating its Pacific Avenue clinic in Livermore in 2006 and redesigning its Railroad Avenue space in Pleasanton three years later.

"But a lack of resources prevented the organization from being able to fully meet the needs of the community," Axis officials said.

That strain would be eased thanks to two key turning points that truly altered Axis' path.

The U.S. Bureau of Primary Health Care granted Axis the status of "federally qualified health center" in 2009, which led to an influx of federal funding that also increased after the implementation of the Affordable Care Act nationwide in 2010.

After that juncture, the number of patients for Axis increased by 40% — leading to a pressing demand for more space.

Axis bought a 24,000-square-foot building in Hacienda Business Park in 2011, with the goal of developing the office building into a clinical facility. A years-long fundraising campaign followed, positioning the nonprofit to start construction in 2015.

The \$12 million facility on West Las Positas Boulevard opened its doors in 2016, doubling Axis' service capacity.

Over the next six years, Axis would continue to expand its services and locations throughout the Tri-Valley, with support from public and private funds.

"I have been a patient at Axis Community Health for several years, and I cannot speak highly enough about their quality of care, facilities and their human touch," said Deneen A., an Axis patient whose last name was withheld for medical privacy reasons. "I recently had a tooth extraction at the new Axis dental clinic in Dublin and was very pleased with the results. The community is fortunate to have this quality well ran resource."

Jared H., another patient who asked not to be fully identified, added, "Axis Community Health is my psychotherapy counselor provider. They have always treated me well, they accept many insurances, and also have a sliding scale for those with no insurance and low income. Everyone is very friendly and makes sure I feel comfortable and welcome."

"From its start as a small organization in cramped quarters, it has grown into a multi-site organization providing key services to thousands in the region least able to afford health care," Paxson said. "Axis has grown to supply not only primary health care needs but to address other areas of health including mental and behavioral health, dental health and specialty health services for its clients."

Axis opened the Tri-Valley's first-ever affordable dental clinic for low-income and uninsured residents in 2019 in Dublin.

New renovations at the Railroad Avenue facility were also completed that year, which included an integrated behavioral health building and a second area that houses the



Axis expanded by adding dental services for all ages at a new site in Dublin just over three years ago.

call center, medical records, patient referrals and billing.

In early 2020, Axis added orthopedics, acupuncture and chiropractic care to its collection of services.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit, forcing the nonprofit to convert nearly all of its services to telehealth but eventually also allowing it to expand its reach by implementing COVID-19 testing and vaccination services.

As of this spring, Axis had administered more than 23,000 tests and 26,000 vaccination doses for COVID-19.

With mental health care and emergency response being cast into the spotlight during the pandemic, Axis partnered last July with the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, along with Alameda County, to develop Axis Bridge — a new mental health urgent care service that "provides rapid access to mental health services, care management and psychiatry services for anyone who is facing an urgent mental health concern," according to Compton.

"Axis is growing and expanding its response as a provider. Plans are in place to open a new clinic to bring proximate services to its clientele," Paxson said, adding:

"Axis has always been a leader in innovation and its growth over the next several years, both in terms of facilities and services, will allow it to be able to provide a more comprehensive and broader form of support

to those in need."

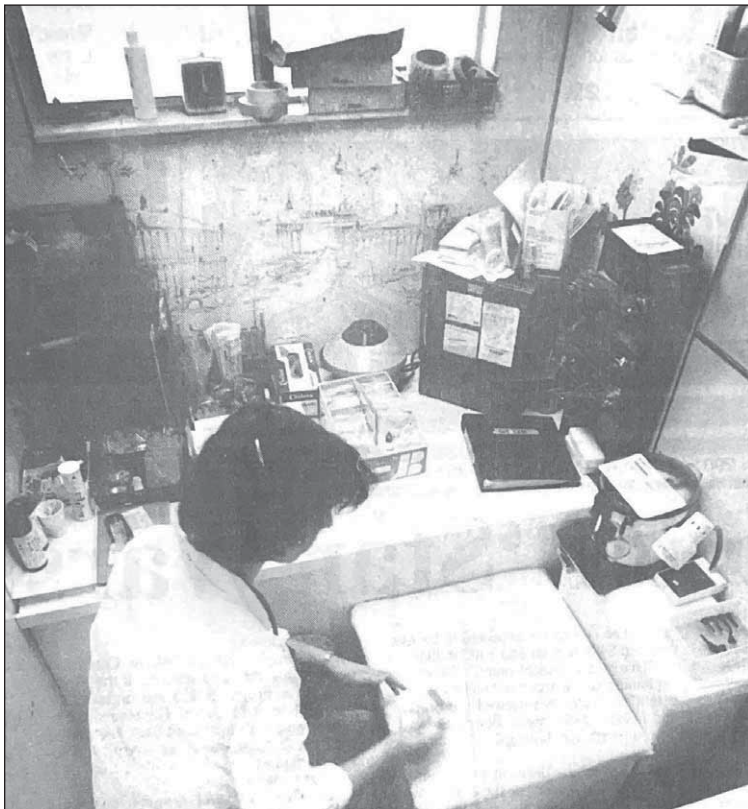
The increased presence in Livermore will be via a new 8,600-square-foot facility in a building the nonprofit purchased in downtown to offer additional medical, behavioral health and dental services. The site is scheduled to open in late 2023.

"We are so proud of the legacy that 50 years of service has brought to the Tri-Valley area. It is an incredible honor to serve our most vulnerable community members and provide them with best in class health care," Axis' incoming CEO Liz Perez-Howe told the Weekly.

Perez-Howe, the organization's chief operating officer since 2013, was selected by the board in April to succeed Compton upon her retirement this month after 15 years at the helm. Both featured prominently in Axis' 50th anniversary celebration held in early May.

The organization that began in five decades in a converted small house with just three staff members has evolved into an affordable health care network with five locations in the Tri-Valley, nearly 200 staff members and an annual operating budget of \$31 million.

"We know that a strong and healthy community depends on strong and healthy residents," Perez-Howe said. "Our team has never been more committed to living our mission to reach the underserved. We look forward to our next 50 years." ■



A medical assistant conducts a pregnancy test on a toilet cover in Valley Community Health Center's lab, a converted bathroom, in 1989. Notice the desktop covers a bathtub.

ACTIVISM

Continued from Page 14

has been legalized for people 18 and older, so they don't see it as a threat," Berlinn said. "But honestly there have been some teenagers who have died from smoking marijuana that's been laced with fentanyl, so they really can't trust that anything they get on the streets that doesn't come from a dispensary or doctor is going to be safe."

"I think parents need to tell their kids that there's some new things

in drugs that can literally kill them if they take it one time," Berlinn added.

In particular, Berlinn pointed to the easy availability of counterfeit prescription drugs on social media platforms such as Snapchat, which she said her younger child isn't allowed to use.

"They can order what they think is a Xanax or a Percocet and have it delivered to their home like a pizza, and they take it and they can die in their bedroom," Berlinn said.

Although she lauded harm

reduction efforts such as fentanyl test trips, Berlinn noted that these were unreliable for pills in particular, and not perfect in general.

"It's almost like wearing a condom and having sex," Berlinn said. "You're still taking a chance."

With the rise of fentanyl and the ubiquity of young people's curiosity about, and experimentation, with drugs, Berlinn said that the most dangerous idea for parents was that drug addiction and overdose death aren't risks for their children in particular.

"I have met a number of parents who thought 'not my kid,'" Berlinn said. "They had no idea this would happen. They knew nothing about these things until it happened to their 4.0, musically talented, amazing kid ... If you're saying 'not my kid,' if you think it can't happen to your kid, you're fooling yourself because it only takes them experimenting one time."

"And these days, especially with the culture around drugs right now, I think more than ever they think it's OK to try. And it's not."

Like many parents of pre-teens and teens, Berlinn said drug use was already popular when she was growing up. However, she emphasized that modern drugs such as fentanyl paint an entirely new, and more sinister, landscape than parents might be familiar with.

"It's not the drugs we were dealing with when we were kids," Berlinn said. "This is so much more deadly and addicting."

Learn more about Berlinn's organization at <https://mothersagainstdrugdeaths.org>. ■

Renee' L. Gielow

July 20, 1942 – May 9, 2022

With deep sadness for her Family and many Friends, the bright spirit and gentle kindness of Renee' L. Gielow passed from this world at her home, under Sutter Hospice Care, in Roseville, CA. Renee's short, but heroic battle with pancreatic cancer, was fought with the same courage, determination and positive attitude which was the hallmark of her life.

Renee' was born in St. Paul's Hospital, Livermore, CA to Albert & Berenice Charvo. She was preceded in death by her parents, loving Uncle and Aunt, Bill and Mildred Clark, Step-Father, Tom Stokes, Brother, Albert Charvo first husband, George A. Spiliotopoulos, and brother in laws, Gary Engelken and Brian Brennan. She is survived by her husband, Charles H. (Chuck) Gielow, two children, Christine Spiliotopoulos, Stephen A. Spiliotopoulos, sisters, Leah Brennan and Judith Engelken and nieces, Elizabeth and Mary Lynn Engelken and Christi Hardcastle and Cindy Charvo.

She married Chuck in September, 1988 and inherited three new children, Richard Gielow (Cara), Lynn Lee (Lester) and Laurie Kiely (Mark) and one grandson, Charles Scott Gielow (Chad), all of whom were able to assist and care for her in her final days. Known affectionately as "Ne" to her family and grandchildren, the one grandchild soon grew to a total of seven, and Chad's wife Ashlyn, Jordan Gielow (Jamie), Nathan Lee, Riley Unverferth, Jenna Gielow, Brandon Lee, Jill Unverferth and one great granddaughter, Jean Hazelle Gielow.

Renee's early years were spent in Pleasanton where she attended Pleasanton Elementary and Amador Valley High School, graduating in 1960, where she participated in Cheer as a pom pom girl. She retained her close friendship with many of her high school classmates and was a member of the AVHS 1960 Class Reunion Committee. Her heart never left "Main Street" Pleasanton and she held many memories of 4H Club activities, tennis at Castlewood Country Club, Mardi Gras fundraisers with the Pleasanton Junior Woman's Club and leading fitness classes for the Pleasanton Recreation Department.

In 1987, Chuck and community friends held an annual outing to attend the opening night at the Oakland A's and he invited her to attend with the group. While they had known each other for some time in the community, she always insisted it was not a date. That lasted one week, until he asked her out for the next date. The relationship grew quickly and they shared many happy moments in the courtship.

Chuck and Renee lived in Pleasanton until September, 2005 sharing time in their vacation homes in Santa Cruz and Graeagle, CA. They relocated to Marana, AZ for winter months and Graeagle for summer months. Leaving AZ, they settled first in Graeagle before moving to Roseville in 2014. While she once insisted she would never live in a Sun City Community, she soon found the Fitness Center and became an active participant in many of the fitness classes held there, often providing good-natured assistance to the fitness directors. She loved the family gatherings with all the grandchildren for holidays, vacations and Sunday Night dinners. Her life was full maintaining her home, working in her garden, visiting with her fitness class friends.

Her kindness touched everyone and if you knew Renee', you were a friend of Renee'. She is already missed by everyone who knew her.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held for Renee on Friday, June 10, 2022 at the Timbers Creek Lodge, in Sun City Roseville at 11:00 AM with lunch following and friends are welcome. In lieu of flowers, the family would like to suggest a donation to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, <http://support.pancan.org/goto/reneegielow>



PAID OBITUARY

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Man charged with murder for freeway crash on Valentine's Day 2021

Alameda County prosecutors filed charges last week against a Manteca man with prior drunk-driving convictions for allegedly causing a high-speed crash while intoxicated near Dublin 15 months ago and running from the scene while his passenger lay dying on the freeway after being ejected from the car.

Alejandro Valencia Torres Jr., now 26, faces six felonies and seven special allegations in connection with the solo-vehicle wreck on westbound Interstate 580 that killed Kenia Hernandez Berber on Valentine's Day 2021.

The case remained under investigation by the California Highway Patrol's Dublin office for more than a year, including one exchange late last year in which the CHP presented initial findings to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office and prosecutors then requested more evidence, before the criminal complaint against Valencia Torres was filed on May 25.

Valencia Torres is scheduled for arraignment in Alameda County Superior Court later this month. It is not immediately clear whether he is yet represented by an attorney. The defendant's last name is also recorded as Valencia Torres.

Documents filed with the court in the case thus far serve to confirm

early information reported publicly by CHP-Dublin, as well as reveal new details including the allegation that Valencia Torres fled after the crash but was soon apprehended at a gas station in Dublin.

The situation unfolded at around 4:45 a.m. Feb. 14, 2021, when a silver Toyota sedan traveling at a high rate of speed on westbound I-580 just west of the San Ramon Road/Foothill Road exit drifted out of control to the right, the CHP reported at the time. The car went up a dirt embankment and flipped over.

The impact of the crash caused passenger Hernandez Berber to be ejected from the sedan, landing face down on the freeway with major injuries. The 25-year-old woman was pronounced dead at Eden Medical Center in Castro Valley later in the day.

Hernandez Berber, a native of Mexico, had been living in San Leandro and working as a nail artist in the Bay Area, according to a brief obituary online.

Upon arriving at the crash scene that morning, CHP Officer Aman-deep Singh spoke with witnesses who said the driver ran away from the wreckage north of I-580 toward Dublin Boulevard, according to a probable cause declaration from Singh filed with the court.

The suspect — later identified as Valencia Torres — was spotted at the Shell gas station at Dublin Boulevard and San Ramon Road within the hour, according to the officer.

"Upon contact I immediately smelled a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting from his person and his eyes were red and watery," Singh stated. "I read Torres his Miranda rights and he declined further questioning and testing."

The officer arrested Valencia Torres on suspicion of DUI just after 5:50 a.m. Feb. 14, 2021.

The CHP investigation concluded within the past several weeks, and the DA's office formally charged Valencia Torres for Hernandez Berber's death on May 25.

The six felony charges include murder, gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated with prior convictions, DUI-alcohol causing injuries with priors, DUI with a blood-alcohol content over the legal limit with priors, leaving the scene of a serious car accident and reckless driving causing great bodily injury.

He also faces special allegations including having a blood-alcohol content at or above 0.15%, speeding at least 30 mph over the posted maximum, causing serious injury to his passenger and having prior DUI convictions.

The criminal complaint cites two prior DUI convictions against Valencia Torres for incidents occurring within 11 days of each other in

Alameda County in 2015.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- A Tri-Valley man who may have been intoxicated died in a crash that left three children from his car and another driver with major injuries late Sunday on Highway 160 just north of the Antioch Bridge, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The wreck was reported about 10:20 p.m. on the two-lane highway between the Antioch Bridge and Highway 12, the CHP said. The area is in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta in southern Sacramento County.

A Mazda reportedly traveling southbound at a high rate of speed went over the double-yellow lines and into the opposing lane of traffic, colliding with an oncoming Audi, according to CHP spokesman Officer Mark Leavitt. The Mazda overturned and the Audi spun out to the right shoulder.

The Mazda's driver, a 38-year-old San Ramon man who may have been intoxicated, was not wearing a seatbelt and died at the scene, Leavitt said. His identity has not yet been revealed publicly.

Two boys in the Mazda's back seat, ages 6 and 4, were not wearing seatbelts and sustained major injuries. There were no car seats in the vehicle. A 15-year-old girl in the front passenger seat may have been wearing a seatbelt, Leavitt said.

All three children were hospitalized. The relationship between the occupants of the Mazda was still under investigation, according to Leavitt.

The driver of the Audi, a 71-year-old woman from Rio Vista, was hospitalized with major injuries and was in stable condition on Monday.

Interviews with witnesses indicated that the driver may have been intoxicated and driving recklessly, according to the CHP.

—Kathleen Kirkwood, BCN

- A father and son from the Tri-Valley were sentenced last Friday for conspiracy to commit mail fraud through a scheme to embezzle medical equipment owned by Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Health Plan, Inc., the Department of Justice announced.

Anthony Montanelli, 34, and his father, Steven Montanelli, 63, both of San Ramon, pleaded guilty to the charges on Jan. 14.

According to the plea agreement, the men worked for Kaiser as biomedical engineers and were responsible for repairing and servicing ultrasound equipment. The men used their positions to order new ultrasound parts that were supposed to be used for repairs or maintenance, but instead were

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diverted into their own side business, Pacific Coast Imaging (PCI). The defendants then sold those parts through PCI for their own profit, according to the plea deal. The pair also did not disclose to Kaiser that they had the side business, which they operated during their Kaiser work hours.

The father and son admitted that from February of 2010 to about April of 2018 they worked together to defraud Kaiser. They even went as far as to rent a storage facility to stockpile new, used, and decommissioned Kaiser-owned ultrasound systems and parts. Some of the Kaiser inventory was sold or leased to PCI customers. The pair also admitted that they would report items as decommissioned so that they could divert them to their side business.

The Montanellis admitted that the value of the loss to Kaiser exceeded \$1.5 million. Anthony Montanelli has given Kaiser restitution in the amount of \$449,955 so far, bringing the total restitution amount to \$1,649,955, according to the DOJ.

Anthony Montanelli was given a year and a day in prison for his crime and he is due to surrender on or before July 1. His father Steven has been given five years' probation. Both are ordered to pay \$1.2 million within 90 days, as well and a fine of \$150,000 each.

—Bay City News Service

- A young man from Concord with an outstanding burglary warrant was taken into custody in Danville after police allege he fired a gun following a fight in the heart of downtown early Sunday morning.

Jacob Filipo, 20, was booked into the county jail on suspicion of multiple firearm charges, as well as in connection with a separate warrant alleging eight counts of both burglary and conspiracy, according to Danville Police Chief Allan Shields.

The situation unfolded around 1:20 a.m. Sunday, when Danville police received a call reporting shots fired in front of Kick N' Mule Bar & Kitchen on Hartz Avenue. Officers investigated the case and determined Filipo was the suspect who "fired a gun into the ground and across the street in the direction of parked vehicles and closed businesses after a fight had taken place," Shields said.

Police did not locate any gunshot victims related to the incident, according to the chief.

Filipo was arrested on suspicion of discharging a firearm in a grossly negligent manner, carrying a concealed firearm, possessing a loaded firearm and resisting arrest, according to Shields. He was booked into the Martinez Detention Facility on those charges, in addition to an unrelated 16-count outstanding warrant. His bail has been set at \$395,000.

—Jeremy Walsh

- A bill from State Sen. Josh Becker that would require California law enforcement agencies to find alternatives to radio encryption cleared the State Senate last week.

The legislation, known as Senate Bill 1000, addresses the recent trend of police departments throughout California switching to encrypted communication, a practice that keeps the media and residents from monitoring police activities through a police scanner. The bill gives law enforcement agencies until Jan. 1, 2024 to come up with policies that would protect confidential information while restoring public access to regular radio communication.

The Palo Alto Police Department was one of dozens of law enforcement agencies throughout the state that have switched to encryption in response to an October 2020 memo from the state Department of Justice. The directive from the agency ordered agencies to protect personally identifiable information such as Social Security numbers, license plate numbers and criminal records.

Some agencies, including Palo Alto police and most other police departments in Santa Clara County,

responded by encrypting all radio communications. Others, including the CHP, adopted a "hybrid" approach in which personally identifiable information gets transmitted through secure channels while most of other communication continues to be publicly accessible.

SB 1000 states that agencies may comply with the confidentiality requirement by using an encrypted channel for dissemination of confidential information; by transmitting the information by a mobile data terminal, tablet or other text display device; or by communicating it through a telephone or other private device-to-device communication.

Becker's bill easily cleared the Senate by a 25-8 vote, which fell largely along party lines on May 26. Republican Sens. Patricia Bates, Andreas Borgeas, Brian Dahle, Shannon Grove, Melissa Melendez, Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh and Scott Wilk dissented. Sen. Melissa Hurtado was the only Democrat to join them in opposition.

The bill will still need to get approved by the State Assembly and then signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom before it becomes law. ■

—Gennady Sheyner, Palo Alto Weekly

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

May 26

Warrant arrest

- 6:37 a.m. on Main and St. John streets
- 11:17 a.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

May 25

Domestic battery

- 4:37 a.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road

Catalytic converter theft

- 7:25 a.m. on the 700 block of Koll Center Parkway

May 24

Warrant arrest

- 12:12 a.m. at Hopyard Road and Coronado Lane

Drug violation

- 7:42 a.m. on the 2900 block of Hopyard Road

Theft

- 11:12 a.m., 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 3:49 p.m. on the 7900 block of Stoneridge Drive
- 5:01 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Fraud

- 4:52 p.m. on the 4600 block of Cope Court

DUI

- 7:20 p.m. on the 6300 block of Alisal Street

May 23

Theft

- 8:36 a.m., 4800 block of Hopyard Road; catalytic converter theft
- 12:29 p.m., 5500 block of Baldwin Way; theft from auto

Drug violation

- 10:49 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Vandalism

- 2:37 p.m. at Valley and Bernal avenues

Warrant arrest

- 7:29 p.m. at Hacienda and Owens drives
- 8:13 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

May 22

Catalytic converter theft

- 8:39 a.m. on the 7800 block of Chestnut Way

Vandalism

- 12:07 p.m. on the 100 block of Spring Street

May 21

Fraud

- 8:53 a.m. on the 2400 block of Minivet Court

Vandalism

- 8:59 a.m. on the 400 block of Division Street

Theft

- 10:23 a.m., 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; catalytic converter theft
- 6:40 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

May 20

Burglary

- 4:17 a.m. on the 4200 block of First Street

Weapons violation

- 4:46 a.m. at Busch Road and Valley Avenue

Theft

- 6:51 a.m. on the 3400 block of Andrews Road
- 12:15 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting
- 3:21 p.m., 4300 block of Rosewood Drive; auto theft
- 4:14 p.m., 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto
- 5:39 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Missing person

- 7:19 a.m. at Hopyard Road and Hansen Drive

Erin Elizabeth Winter

November 13, 1975 – May 9, 2022

Erin Winter passed away suddenly on May 9 in Livermore, CA of natural causes. Born in Milwaukee WI, Erin grew up in Virginia, North Carolina, St. Louis MO, & Los Angeles CA, before moving to Tiburon CA, where she graduated from Redwood High School in 1992. She found quick success in the real estate industry before joining her mother Lynn and brother Mark in their thriving family business Hired Hands Homecare. It was there that she truly prospered, bringing light, commitment, and compassion to every day. She absolutely loved the life-work of senior care, and the opportunity to work alongside so many amazing people helping seniors and their families brought her great joy.

In 2013, Erin expanded Hired Hands operations by opening an office in Pleasanton and moving to Livermore to be with her life partner Tim Ponder. It was here where she greatly enjoyed the ranch lifestyle, surrounded by many animals, and was thoroughly involved in their community, including the Livermore Rodeo Association. Erin felt strongly about helping people, and was a leader in her local PEO International chapter - educating, motivating, and celebrating women through philanthropy and education.

Erin is survived by her parents Lynn Winter of Sonoma and Ron Winter of Indianapolis, IN. She is mourned by her life partner, Tim Ponder, her oldest brother Mark Winter, his wife Lori and daughter Elsa of Sonoma, as well as brother Joel Winter, his wife Cecilia and their children Madeleine and Griffin of San Francisco, and their extended families.

Erin will be lovingly remembered for her positive energy, beautiful smile, and compassionate heart.



PAID OBITUARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Send a cover letter that details how your experience fits the needs of the position and includes your salary requirement. Also attach your resume and at least three clips/links that demonstrate your journalism and multimedia skills. Email the materials, with "News Reporter" in the subject line, to Gina Channell Wilcox (gchannell@embarcaderomediagroup.com). No calls please. EOE.



5506 SUNOL BOULEVARD, SUITE 203 | PLEASANTON
PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM | DANVILLESANRAMON.COM | LIVERMOREVINE.COM

Weekly wins awards for local coverage in 2021

Our entire editorial team is beaming with pride after being acknowledged by our peers with 10 awards in the California News Publishers Association's 2021 California Journalism Awards program.

Our recognitions, between first and fifth places in print and digital categories in our circulation divisions, came for single stories or series that truly represented the range of great local coverage we strive to focus on.

These awards are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our journalists to doggedly report — with accuracy, context and perspective — local news from across the Tri-Valley among our Pleasanton Weekly, LivermoreVine.com and DanvilleSanRamon.com publications.

Topping our list, the Weekly took home two first-place awards

from the CNPA: Coverage of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Arts & Entertainment Coverage (both in the Digital Division).

Publisher Gina Channell Wilcox won for her story "Weekend on Main: Boon for restaurants and residents, bane for some retailers," which examined the impact of downtown Pleasanton's Weekend on Main street closures on the community in 2021.

As one CNPA judge wrote after awarding Wilcox first place: "Good pro and con on arguments for helping restaurants during COVID-19 by reducing parking and the impacts on other businesses of so doing."

Dolores Fox Ciardelli, our former Tri-Valley Life editor who retired in February, was honored with the top prize in A&E for her feature story "Becoming Bob Ross," which highlighted Pleasanton native and

actor Bryan Mazzearello's experience transforming into late artist Bob Ross for a national commercial campaign for Mountain Dew.

We were so thrilled to see Ciardelli recognized so well in her final CNPA contest on our staff. She also earned third place in Feature Story (Print) for her cover story "California rugged" on the Diablo Range and fifth place in Columns (Digital) for her Valley Views columns, specifically "One year later" from March 2021 and "Moi? In a fight?" from that November.

"Dolores is authentic and hits on what people are thinking," a CNPA judge commented about her columns. Really, that can be said of everything Ciardelli wrote for us over the years.

Our commitment to timely reporting online resulted in two awards for Breaking News (Digital) — second place for editor Jeremy

Walsh's article on March 24, 2021, "Dublin USD Trustee Catherine Kuo killed in car crash on campus," and third place for former reporter Julia Baum's story on July 29, 2021, "Pleasanton community steps up to support missing runner's family," following an exclusive interview with Philip Kreycek's family.

Our high-quality reporting of the Livermore community in 2021 led to three awards for our Livermore Vine editor Cierra Bailey: third place in both Coverage of Local Government (Digital) and Land-Use Reporting (Digital) for her series on the Eden Housing saga in downtown Livermore and fourth place Coverage of Business News (Print) for her profile on Wingen Bakery.

And to round out our honors, Walsh earned a fourth-place award for Columns (Digital) for his What a Week columns, which launched

just last year. Specifically, the nomination entry featured two personal pieces, "Anniversary debut for editor's new column" in January 2021 and "Becoming a dad" in December.

In the CNPA contest, we competed in the Weeklies 11,000-25,000 circulation category for the Print Division and Monthly unique visitors 100,000 and under category for the Digital Division.

These awards underscore the fact that 2021 was another standout year for us in the Embarcadero Media East Bay Division — and we too must give shoutouts to our design, advertising and administrative colleagues, as well as our readers and supporters, without whom we could not produce our local journalism.

We look forward to continuing that record of strong coverage throughout 2022 and beyond. ■

LETTERS

Vote Bauer-Kahan

Advertisements and marketing are much like sugarcoating a cookie. You are left with the harsh and ugly truth once you take out the sweetened lies and deception.

However, Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan has strived again and again to make bills and policies that protect the welfare of California citizens and uncover the truth. She co-authored SB 793 to shut down big tobacco's false advertising.

She not only made policies but continues to stand by her values. Despite her busy schedule, she came as a guest speaker at my anti-vaping conference, which aimed to explain the harmful effects of vaping through a teen's lens.

She recently created AB 2089, a bill aimed to protect an individual's medical information from harmful advertisements. These advertisements force clients to fill out surveys, unaware of how they are releasing sensitive information. Yet, Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan didn't stand back and let this happen — she wrote up a policy that directly attacks the issue.

A vote for Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan is a vote for a more transparent government in California — one where the truth is brought out of where lies and deceit hide it.

—Connor Lam, Foothill High student

Dems endorse Cook-Kallio

The Tri-Valley Democratic Club is pleased to announce the endorsement of Cheryl Cook-Kallio for Alameda County School District 7.

TVDC members have known and worked with Cheryl for many years; she has been one of our political leaders and a champion for educating our kids.

As a political leader she has served on the Pleasanton City Council as well as on a long list of advisory boards, programs and public service groups. Her political experience will be of great value to the county school board; she knows how to make democracy work.

Her 40 years of teaching experience means she has the tools to be a champion for our kids' education, she knows her way around the classroom. She knows what motivates students and what has the opposite effect.

She will champion public education while her two opponents champion corporate-owned education and charter schools like the one that went bankrupt in Livermore and extorted \$60 million from the school board so they would have funding to finish that school year.

TVDC members are very aware of the influence the charter schools industry has on California elections, pouring money into campaigns opposing candidates who want to prevent charter schools from raiding local school board funds for financial gain. Cheryl will safeguard those funds and

make sure they are spent wisely

The main reason TVDC endorses Cheryl is that we know and trust her, not just with our taxpayer dollars but with the health, safety and education of our kids.

—Ellis Goldberg, political director, Tri-Valley Democratic Club

Let's lift children out of poverty

California is expected to have another massive budget surplus this year, with most estimates projecting revenues in the tens of billions of dollars over expenses. As the governor and the Legislature prepare to negotiate this year's budget, their top priority should be lifting children up out of poverty. The most effective way to do this is direct cash payments.

The recently expired monthly federal child tax credit payments cut child poverty dramatically in California by over 33%. But data shows that in January, right after the CTC expired, the number of children in poverty spiked dramatically with Black and Latino/Latinx children seeing the highest percentage point increase in poverty.

California has an opportunity now to step in and keep those children from falling back into poverty. With the huge, expected budget surplus this year in the tens of billions, providing low-income California families with \$2,000 per child would cost the state a fraction of that, less than \$5 billion.

We have a proven method to

radically reduce child poverty with tax credits targeted to low-income families. The question now is only whether Gov. Newsom and the California Legislature will choose to do it.

—Ward G Kanowsky

Stop Congress from making money in stock market

When we elect lawmakers to public office, we expect them to put the American people's interests above their own. But that's not always what happens.

In early 2020, before most Americans were familiar with COVID-19, members of Congress were briefed by top public health officials about the threat posed by the virus. In the following days, Republican Senators Kelly Loeffler and Richard Burr offloaded millions of dollars worth of stock.

Our laws simply don't do enough to keep our elected representatives from using the private information they receive in the course of their duties for personal profit. Congress must strengthen these laws to prevent insider trading and conflicts of interest.

An overwhelming majority of Americans — including nearly eight out of 10 Republicans — agree that members of Congress should not be allowed to buy or sell stocks while in office.

It's past time for our leaders to get on board with the majority of the American people and pass legislation to stop congressional stock trading.

—Irene Hilgers

Pleasanton Weekly

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Foothill baseball earns berth in CIF State NorCal Playoffs

Also: Falcons compete in state track meet;
Dons make it to volleyball semis

Live to fight another day is the mantra for all sports teams, and the Foothill boys' baseball team is doing just that.

The Falcons won the East Bay Athletic League title, beating De La Salle in the EBAL playoffs, grabbed the top seed for the North Coast Section D-I playoffs and then advanced to host the championship game on May 27.

There the Falcons ran into the Spartans for the third time this season, this time falling 9-6 in nine innings. More on the game in a bit,

but by virtue of reaching the NCS finals, the Falcons got a spot in the CIF State NorCal Playoffs.

On top of that, due to their successful 25-5 record, the Falcons were awarded the No. 4 seed and the right to host a first-round game with No. 5 seed Palo Alto this Tuesday.

De La Salle earned the No. 1 seed and plays host to No. 8 Del Campo, also on Tuesday. Results were pending as of press time. Should both the Falcons and the Spartans have won that game, the

two teams would meet for a fourth time this season in the semifinals.

In many ways it seems so logical for the teams to meet yet again as they really are very equal in talent this season.

The first time they played, De La Salle got the best of Foothill, winning 4-0 at Foothill. Game 2 came in the EBAL playoffs, this time at De La Salle, and it was the Falcons that won the title 4-1.

The last meeting, just this past Friday, saw the Falcons jump out 4-0 after three innings. De La Salle got three in the fourth, but Foothill countered with one in the bottom half of the inning to lead 5-3.

Each team added single runs in the sixth, sending Foothill within three outs of the NCS title, leading 6-4. The Spartans got two in the top half to tie it up, and after Foothill was blanked in the seventh, the game went to extra innings.

De La Salle broke through with three in the top of the ninth, and then kept Foothill from scoring in the bottom half to earn the 9-6 win.

Lost in the overall excitement were three controversial balk calls on Foothill pitchers that turned the tide for De La Salle twice in the game.

The three balks — which on



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Top performers for Foothill track and field competed at the CIF State Track Meet in Clovis.

video certainly didn't appear to be balks — doubled the Foothill total from the previous 29 games.

Amador boys' volleyball

The Dons' sensational season came to an end with a loss to the eventual CIF State NorCal champ Woodcreek (Roseville) in the semifinals 25-12, 25-22, 25-16.

Amador Valley started the week with a quarterfinal victory over Vista del Lago (Folsom), posting a 21-25, 25-21, 25-17, 25-13 win.

The Dons were led by Nate Clinton (16 kills, 10 digs), Tyler Homes (10 kills), Colin Bowers (18 assists, 15 service points), Bryce Nohava (27 assists) and Sean Vahey who slammed the door on Vista with a game-clinching kill.

The team finished 28-8 overall, and 16-2 in EBAL play, winning the title under coach Erin McFall and assistant coach Ross Yu.

The Dons also posted a 3.59 GPA, tied for the top team GPA in NCS.

Foothill track and field

The Falcons sent eight athletes to the CIF State Track Meet on May 27-28 at Buchanan High in Clovis.

Torre Anderson finished in 13th place in the long jump with a distance of 17 feet, 11.5 inches. The 4x100 relay of Emma Lin, Torre Anderson, Marina Garcia and Makenna Meyers-McNerney, finished in 15th place with a time of 48.73.

The 4x400 relay of Kayla Galvez, Sabrina Nelson, Samantha Lim and Claire Van Horn with a time of 4:04.85 finished in 21st place.

To qualify for state, these athletes had to advance through three very competitive rounds of qualifying: EBAL, then Tri-Valley NCS and then the Meet of Champions, where they had to finish in the top three. ■

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.

RADD back in competition

Track/field athletes participate at regionals

Pleasanton RADD (Recreational Activities for the Developmentally Disabled) Roadrunner athletes returned to competition last month at the Special Olympics regional track-and-field competition at Amador Valley High School.

The event, which marked the first regionals in more than three years, drew 11 Northern California teams and close to 400 athletes to Pleasanton on May 14, according to RADD coach Kay King.

"Needless to say the energy and excitement was felt by everyone: spectators, volunteers and especially the athletes," King told the Weekly. "RADD had 15 athletes, each who competed in three different events and all came away with medals ... some with three golds and almost all with personal bests."

Participating RADD athletes included Victor Almeida, Camellia Pinhero, Ryan Butterly, Jennifer Thomas, Marshall Fulk, Tim Vergara, Stephanie Brock, Greg Neves, Mihir Chandran, Patrick Kirbach, Scott Tessler, Joshua Layman, Jake Elfin, Vlad Gorokhov and Evan Rutter.

After the regionals, the Roadrunners continue to practice ahead of the Summer Games from June 24-26 at Santa Clara University.

During the opening ceremonies at Amador, King and fellow RADD coach Kathy D'Onofrio received the 10-year volunteer award pin, and RADD coach Jim Spillane earned the five-year volunteer award. The team also featured coaches Mike D'Onofrio and Leo Zhang. ■

—Jeremy Walsh



RADD

Pleasanton RADD Roadrunners and coaches gather before the start of the Special Olympics regional competition at Amador Valley High School.

Employment

Sr. Program Manager, Information Security

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Sr. Program Manager, Information Security in Pleasanton, CA to build, develop, implement, and iterate on information security program management procedures, frameworks, and metrics to achieve business goals with defined success criteria. 100% Telecommuting permitted within the U.S. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com Ref: 80686

Senior Web AEM Developer

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Senior Web AEM Developer 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.

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Entertainment

HANK AND MY HONKY TONK HEROES

The Bankhead presents Jason Petty's Obie Award-winning performance brings Hank Williams' timeless music to life. In Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes, Petty gives audiences a personal look at Williams growing up, how he became famous and who influenced the legendary singer/songwriter. 8 p.m., June 3. Visit livermorearts.org.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK The Pleasanton Downtown Association's popular Concert in the Park series will take place every Friday night, June 11-Aug. 26 featuring an eclectic mix of music from classic rock, blues and big band to today's hits. 7-8:30 p.m., Lions Wayside Park.

PIANIST FREDERIC CHIU AT THE BANKHEAD Livermore-Amador Symphony presents pianist Frederic Chiu, an exceptional interpreter of the music of Prokofiev. Join as they conclude the season with an audience favorite, Dvorak's beloved New World Symphony. 8 p.m., June 4. Tickets \$12-\$37. Visit livermorearts.org.

NATIVE ART CELEBRATION & RECEPTION In conjunction with the Livermore American Indian Center, join on the Bankhead Plaza for Powwow dancers, live musicians, a tipi maker and East Coast indigenous storyteller Dovie Thomason, known for her stories of First Nations. 1-4 p.m., June 4. Free.

GARRISON KEILLOR AT THE BANKHEAD Garrison Keillor brings his gentle wit and Midwestern sense of humor back to the stage with Robin & Linda Williams singing their favorites, gospel or doo-wop or heart songs. 8 p.m., June 10. Tickets \$20-\$78. Visit livermorearts.org.

WINTER DANCE PARTY John Mueller's Winter Dance Party is the official live and authentic re-creation of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Boppers final tour. Join at the Bankhead for unbridled, high voltage entertainment featuring all the hit songs of the 50's era. 8 p.m., June 11. Tickets \$20-\$78. Visit livermorearts.org.

CELTIC HARPS Lisa Lynne & Aryeh Frankfurter perform with two Celtic

harps where the audience will hear a new collection of traditional instrumental music from Sweden and Ireland as well as heartwarming original compositions blended with stories of humor and adventure. 4-6 p.m., June 12. Suggested donation, \$15-\$20; students and children free. Trinity Lutheran Church, 225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton.

ED KINNEY SPEAKER SERIES The Ed Kinney Speaker Series presents an afternoon or evening with C.S. Lewis, the most highly acclaimed and popular Christian writer of the 20th century. The famed author will be portrayed by Chautauqua scholar Kevin Radaker. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., June 14. Tickets \$15-\$25. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org.

THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS Join America's Favorite Brothers for a very special evening of laughter, music and memories featuring live routines, vintage video clips, and a personal Q&A. 7:30 p.m., June 14. Tickets \$20-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org. Bankhead Theater.

SHREK THE MUSICAL Christian Youth Theater Tri-Valley presents Shrek The Musical at Livermore High School. Nearly 60 students will perform the theatrical adaptation of DreamWorks Animation's movie, telling the story of an accidental hero named Shrek and his life-changing journey. June 16-19, tickets \$16-\$18. Visit cytrivalley.org/shows/Shrek-The-Musical/17.

Festivals & Exhibits

GOODGUYS 27TH SUMMER GET-TOGETHER Goodguys is celebrating 27 years of the Summer Get-Together, a jam-packed weekend filled with cool cars, cool people and good times. Tickets \$10-\$25. June 4-5. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

LIVERMORE RODEO This annual tradition is packed with events including Queen and Princess Competitions, BBQ Mixer, Family Night, Cowgirl Luncheon and the Rodeo. June 11 and 12, Robert Livermore Park. Visit livermoreroдео.com.

Fundraiser

PLEASANTON HOMETOWN PANCAKE BREAKFAST The annual Hometown Pancake Breakfast returns to Delucchi Park in Pleasanton organized by the Pleasanton Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Pleasanton American Legion. There is no charge, however donations will be accepted during breakfast for the next Pleasanton Military Families pack-out. 7:30-11:00 a.m., June 4.

POURING4PURPOSE GARDEN LUAU The Lineage Wine Collection is teaming up with Leaders2Give for an afternoon of fine wines, Tahitian Pig Roast and online silent auction to raise funds for vulnerable kids in Baja California Sur, Mexico. 2-5 p.m., June 12. Visit: visitrivalley.com/events.

VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY BENEFIT Join this unique Whiskey Tasting Dinner to benefit the Valley Humane Society. The all-inclusive ticket starts attendees with a welcome cocktail and grants access to enjoy 5 chef-curated food stations and 4 whiskey tastings hosted by 10th Street Distillery. Tickets \$95. 5-8:30, June 16. Sabio on Main. Visit valleyhumane.org.

SUN'S OUT FUN'S OUT FUN RUN Benefiting Sunflower Hill, this 5K or 1-Mile run or walk around the historic horse racing track and through the Fair has fun stops along the way. Open to athletes of all abilities. 9 a.m., June 18. Register here: annual.alamedacountyfair.com/suns-out-funs-out-5k-run.

FUNDRAISER BBQ AT THE BARN Goodness Village, a tiny home community provides affordable housing options for those experiencing chronic homelessness. This fundraiser includes appetizers, wine, bbq dinner and dessert. 5-8 p.m., June 18. Visit gvlivermore.org/events.

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR UKRAINE Join for an afternoon of beautiful music performed by international concert pianist Tamriko Siplrashvili and the Inspire Music Academy faculty. All proceeds go to International Red Cross Ukraine Humanitarian Relief. 5 p.m., June 19. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit inspiremusicacademy.com.

Family

FIRST WEEKENDS ON MAIN Every first weekend of the month enjoy street closures for roaming in historical downtown Pleasanton featuring events and outdoor dining. June 3-5.

FAMILY DAYS AT MUSEUM ON MAIN "Old Time County Fair" is the theme this month and activities include carnival games, animal judging, balloon animals, quilting, horse racing, games and much more. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., June 4. 603 Main St.

THE WAVE WATERPARK The Wave Waterpark, owned by the city of Dublin, is reopening for the summer season. June 4 to Aug. 5 the park will be open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information on The Wave, visit thedublinwave.com or call 925-574-4800

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Meet Mia

Mia is a very sweet, 8-month-old Australian cattle dog/Kelpie mix puppy who currently weighs 37 pounds. She will win you over in an instant with her adorable face and expressive ears. She loves playing with toys, sunbathing in the backyard and getting lots of belly rubs. She is very smart, knows basic commands and enjoys playing with her canine companion in her foster home. Mia will do best in a home with adults, or possibly older teens, who are experienced with herding breeds. She is spayed, current on vaccines and microchipped. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue at tvar.org.

SPRINGTOWN LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

The Livermore Public Library hosts an Open House at the The Springtown Branch Library where attendees will learn about the services and amenities available at the branch in a fun atmosphere. Attendees may enjoy free refreshments, games and crafts. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., June 4. 998 Bluebell Dr.

LIVERMORE RODEO PARADE The Livermore Rodeo Parade is an annual event that takes place in Downtown Livermore on the second Saturday in June, hosted by the Livermore Rotary Club. 10 a.m., June 11.

PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET The Pleasanton Farmers' Market is Saturday year round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. W. Angela St. Visit pcfma.org/pleasanton.

LIVERMORE THURSDAY NIGHT FARMERS' MARKET The popular Livermore Thursday night Farmers' Market is 4-8 p.m., Carnegie Park, 2155 Third St.

LIVERMORE SUNDAY FARMERS' MARKET Gather with community for music, food and fresh local and organic products directly from producers. Support small businesses and local sustainable agriculture. 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., Sundays. Between J St & L St.

Support

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP Tri-Valley Haven will hold an in-person support group for survivors of domestic violence. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., June 6. Email olga@trivalleyhaven.org or call Sharon at 925-449-5847 ext. 2607. 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore.

NAMI TRI-VALLEY GENERAL MEETING NAMI Tri-Valley presents the zoom presentation "Updates on Alameda County Behavioral Health" with Karyn Tribble, director of Alameda County Behavioral Health. 7-8:30 p.m., June 7. Visit nami-trivalley.org.

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

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

HOT MEALS & GROCERIES FREE OF CHARGE Prepared by Open Heart Kitchen, 1-3 p.m., Monday-Friday. 911 Loyola Way, Livermore. Around the corner from the Robert Livermore Community Center. Drive- or walk-thru only.

Volunteers

PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES - PACK OUT The Pleasanton Military Families Fourth of July-themed pack-out is June 10 and 11. 4-6 p.m., June 10 to unload trailers and prep shipping boxes; 9-a.m.-12 p.m., June 11 to pack boxes and prepare for ship out. VFW Hall, 301 Main St. Visit pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org.

Talks

RANGER-LED PROGRAMS Shark: Friends not Food is the topic of this program about these large toothy fish friends and how to better understand them. 11 a.m., June 4. Sycamore Grove Park.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT The topic of this month's Religion Chat is "How does your community welcome children/youth into the faith? What rite of passage ceremonies are traditional in your culture?" 5-6 p.m., June 8. Visit hus02web.zoom.us/j/82965087998success.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB The June meeting will be an in-person potluck social and awards night to show gratitude to those who helped the last few years. 6-9 p.m., June 9. The Creekside Barn, 1660 Freisman Road, Livermore. Visit lavgc.org.

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA, SELF-CARE FOR THE CAREGIVER This free webinar from Hope Hospice will focus on understanding the causes of stress, strategies for coping, and the importance of seeking support and utilizing resources. 10-11:30 a.m., June 9. Visit hopehospice.com.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Healthy Necessity
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 588415
The following person doing business as: Healthy Necessity, 610 Main Street, Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Michelle Pena, 301 Joyce Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by Michelle Pena, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein March 15, 2017. Signature of Registrant: Michelle Pena, Owner/CACMT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 21, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2022.)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

Deadline is Monday at noon.

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

Real Estate

OPEN HOME GUIDE AND REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during March 28 to April 8 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Sunol.

Pleasanton

560 East Angela Street Hebert Living Trust to Y. & C. Kuan for \$1,700,000

1977 Barcenilla Lane G. Liu to J. & E. Ko for \$1,480,000

1138 Bordeaux Street D. & M. Thomas to P. & A. Rustagi for \$2,375,000

7912 Colonial Court H. & J. Eberle to A. & R. Singh for \$3,901,000

4137 Cristobal Way Green Trust to N. & R. Mittal for \$1,600,000

860 Genevieve Place B. & D. Irish to J. & X. Wang for \$2,330,000

2444 Heatherlark Circle R. & J. Olson to J. Jawanda for \$1,050,000

1518 Honey Suckle Court X. Liu to A. & S. Shetye for \$4,550,000

3411 Isle Royal Court Kirksey Living Trust to J. Sivasamy for \$1,560,000

7374 Lemonwood Way Valladon Living Trust to Cleveland Family Trust for \$1,825,000

8145 Mountain View Drive #A S. & B. Gill to S. & S. Venkataraman for \$760,000

3616 Nichole Avenue F. Weixing to S. & J. Keswani for \$3,800,000

1472 Oak Vista Way Mahesh Family Trust to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$2,155,000

1568 Oxsen Street 2015 Moreno Living Trust to H. & T. Tjokro for \$1,390,000

601 Palomino Drive #A H. Jiang to S. Ridgway for \$775,000

3206 Pueblo Way Becker Living Trust to S. & K. Han for \$780,000

3728 Riesling Court T. & G. Martin to L. & V. Menon for \$2,125,000

724 Saint John Circle Shiraz Trust to J. & V. Baian for \$1,865,000

7514 Stonedale Drive Joyce Family Trust to M. & S. Mallela for \$1,360,000

7060 Via Quito K. & T. Whitworth to L. & E. Woodruff for \$2,225,000

3618 Woodbine Way C. Watson to K. & D. Bernaldes for \$785,000

4097 Brooks Court P. & C. Kirkland to P. & M. Edke for \$1,740,000

3109 Cranwood Court Bay Area Executive Re & Dev Group LLC to R. & K. Pan for \$2,385,000

820 Genevieve Place Mattos Family Trust to E. & K. Han for \$2,500,000

43 Golf Road Smp Survivor Trust to A. & P. Krishnamurthy for \$3,225,000

2756 Hartley Gate Court H. & R. Noe to 621 Los Ninos Way LLC for \$1,300,000

1336 Hearst Drive Baker Living Trust to Y. & M. Liu for \$3,900,000

3656 Kamp Drive S. Liu to V. & M. Karia for \$1,630,500

2787 Maria Street Santiago Trust to H. & J. Gim for \$1,650,000

4125 Moller Drive DeFillio Trust to S. & I. Khoche for \$1,480,000

4951 Muirwood Drive Maes Trust to Y. & D. Kang for \$1,880,000

3632 Olympic Court M. Schultz to N. & K. Roselin for \$1,780,000

2010 Palmer Drive Armor Trust to S. & N. Noolu for \$2,425,000

6828 Rayland Court S. & J. Montana to S. & V. Miriyala for \$1,850,000

2470 Sanderling Drive Wells Living Trust to Khetani Family Trust for \$2,335,000

3318 Smoketree Commons Drive G. & O. Boiko to B. & S. Durlflinger for \$615,000

1849 Spumante Place Klei Family Trust to K. & J. Burnham for \$4,195,000

3502 Whitehall Court Morgan Family Trust to V. & M. Vemula for \$1,950,000

Sunol

12000 Glenora Way Sockozino Family Trust to S. Cobb for \$1,300,000

508 Kilkare Road D. Morris to G. & P. Tiwari for \$1,320,000

Livermore

1948 Blackwood Common L. & B. Esser to Richmond Living Trust for \$1,215,000

776 Camden Common P. & S. Ramos to M. & C. Martin for \$900,000

1888 Cartier Drive B. Martinez to R. & S. Singh for \$926,500

347 Daisyfield Drive T. Dahlmann to C. & A. Cheng for \$1,715,000

969 Dana Circle L. & J. Richard to K. & C. Zach for \$1,825,000

1615 De Leon Way Burton Trust to A. & D. Strozzi for \$1,522,000

861 Debra Street Clark Trust to V. & G. Gupta for \$1,050,000

327 El Caminito J. Munoz to R. & H. Edsen for \$1,150,000

1351 Fairview Court A. & B. Hunt to P. & K. Balasubramanian for \$1,710,000

2192 Foscalina Court L. & E. Hoffman to N. & S. Schormo for \$2,650,000

36 Glacier Place D. & J. Kennedy to M. & P. Arjunan for \$1,210,000

623 Hemlock Court Ambrose Trust to T. & M. Tran for \$1,245,000

1230 Hillview Drive A. & R. Murray to Yay Area Properties LLC for \$930,000

1131 Hollyhock Street N. Cubillos to S. & L. Gallardo for \$780,000

12 Ironstone Common D. & P. Borjon to S. & V. Dixit for \$1,300,000

340 James Street Quiles Family Trust to T. & J. Salkeld for \$900,000

818 Las Flores Road H. Chandola to B. & N. Sapkota for \$955,000

5224 Lilac Avenue B. & S. Mccurdy to V. & S. Kodali for \$925,000

1348 Lillian Street J. & L. Edwards to A. & A. Kumar for \$1,213,000

1035 Lynn Street P. Macpherson to B. & P. Desai for \$1,370,000

494 North M Street K & M Properties Inc to E. & C. Duenas for \$1,155,000

1037 Megan Road S. Allen to E. & A. Haupt for \$1,600,000

1087 Murrieta Boulevard #327 A. Poi to S. Mathews for \$450,000

2880 Patcham Common G. Durst to N. & R. Batta for \$940,000

4196 Pinon Way E. & A. Haupt to B. & P. Aboumrad for \$722,500

248 Scherman Way Anderson Family Trust to S. & R. Singh for \$1,550,000

446 Selby Lane G. Ramakrishnan to P. Ravikumar for \$1,175,000

232 Selby Lane L. So to C. Liu for \$1,175,000

1219 Spring Valley Common B. & R. Sherchand to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$724,000

542 Thunder Common P. Kaliaperumal to M. & W. Syed for \$1,205,000

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.

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

PLEASANTON

2282 Via Espada **\$1,900,000**
Sat/Sun 1-4 5BD/3BA
Better Homes & Gardens
Reliance Partners 925-998-2201

1012 Shotwell Court **\$6,500,000**
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 6BD/7BA
Keller Williams Tri Valley Realty 925-352-5065

*Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).
Agents: Submit open homes at
PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate*

Open House: Sat., & Sun. June 4, 5 from 1-4pm



2282 Via Espada

A west facing move in ready house in the Del Prado section of Pleasanton. With 5br/2.5ba and 2378 sqft of living space. New tile and laminate flooring. New interior doors, new patio and backyard landscaping. New exterior paint. Walk/bike to 12 years of schooling. Central Pleasanton location close to everything. Near Bernal/680 exit.



Al Zielske

925.998.2201
CalDRE #01336036



What's Better Than One House? Two Houses!



4876 Merganser Court, Pleasanton

Offered at \$1,995,000

Located in the heart of Pleasanton's "Birdland" neighborhood, this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home offers more than most, especially since it has a 734 square foot, 1 bedroom, 1 full bath guest house with central air conditioning! The guest house has a living room and laundry with washer and dryer.

The main home features an inviting front porch, luxury wood-look vinyl flooring, a family room with fireplace, shutters, an updated kitchen and bathrooms, laundry room and vinyl windows. Call or text me today for a private tour!



ANDREA ROZRAN
REALTOR®

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This information was supplied by third party sources. Sales Associate believes this information is correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should verify accuracy and investigate to Buyer's own satisfaction.

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KELLERWILLIAMS
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WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

SOUTH LIVERMORE NEIGHBORHOOD



1141 RIESLING CIRCLE, LIVERMORE

3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | OFFICE AREA | 2,617 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

OFFERED AT \$1,849,000

RUBY HILL



**1849 SPUMANTE PLACE,
PLEASANTON**

5 BEDS | 4.5 BATHS

5,623 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

SOLD FOR \$4,195,000

BIRDLAND



**2550 SANDERLING DRIVE,
PLEASANTON**

3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS

1,920 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

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

COUNTRY FAIR II



**6191 VIA DE LOS CERROS,
PLEASANTON**

5 BEDS | 3 BATHS

2,311 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE

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

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.

CONNECT *California* HOMES



OPEN SAT/SUN 1-4PM

3049 Boardwalk Street Pleasanton

Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom single story with soaring ceilings! Updates recently made to kitchen and bathrooms, move in and enjoy Pleasanton Living!

Connect with Katie Moe for Pricing.



3298 Monmouth Court Pleasanton Meadows

Imagine a home where your backyard truly is an extension of your living! This incredibly updated and maintained Pleasanton Meadows home is not to be missed!
Asking \$1,899,000



3575 Ballantyne Drive Pleasanton

Stunning single story located in Pleasanton Meadows with upgraded kitchen/bath and amazing native California landscaping.
Asking \$1,649,000



1171 Hillcrest Court Livermore

A home that will impress and delight you around every corner! From the amazing hardwood floors, stunning primary bath updates and the detached space perfect for work or play!
Asking \$1,299,000

*Congrats
Class of 2022*

We are so excited for the Class of 2022!
Wishing you all much success in your future endeavors.

**CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
FULL SERVICE AND CONNECTED APPROACH TO REAL ESTATE.
IT IS MORE THAN JUST A TRANSACTION!**

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VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

Invest In Living



1012 Shotwell Court, Pleasanton
6 Bedrooms | 6.5 Bathrooms | 7,129 Square Feet



3422 Torlano Place, Ruby Hill
5 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms | 4,450 Square Feet



51 Vallecitos Road, Livermore
Amazing Luxury Property Includes Home, Winery, and Event Center.



5920 Old School Road, San Ramon
5 Bedrooms | 2 Full/4 Half Bathrooms | 5,060 Square Feet



690 Marsala Court, Pleasanton
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,251 Square Feet



1144 Mataro Court, Pleasanton
3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 2,066 Square Feet



3665 Huff Court, Pleasanton
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,437 Square Feet



5980 Corte Cerritos, Pleasanton
3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 1,745 Square Feet



3607 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,562 Square Feet



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