

Pleasanton Weekly

PUSD sends \$395M bond to November ballot

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AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Gun violence shatters sense of safety

The sense of safety is as fragile as glass.

I realized this when I made a trip to Stoneridge Mall recently, by myself, at dusk. As I parked, I thought of all of the violent incidents in the Tri-Valley over the past few weeks. As I grabbed the door handle, I remembered the armed robbery in the parking lot of a Danville grocery store the previous week when a man was approached by teenagers pointing guns at him when he exited his car.

That July 1 armed robbery, which happened in broad daylight in a community named the safest in California just last year, made me want to lock my doors and not leave the house. Not only did this happen in the parking lot of a store I frequent, it was the fourth violent crime involving gun-wielding thugs in the Tri-Valley within the previous two-week period.

It was preceded by a car break-in with shots fired in Pleasanton on June 28, which was preceded by an armed robbery attempt with gunfire exchanged in Danville on June 21, which was preceded by an armed carjacking in Livermore on June 20.

Two weeks went by and I started feeling a bit more secure, but then the crack in my fragile sense of safety splintered further when three people were shot at Granada Bowl in Livermore.

Police reported Antonio Vargas, 28, was playing pool in the bar at the bowling alley on July 16 when there was an altercation that ended with Roger Garcia Aleman pulling a gun and shooting three people, killing Vargas.

At 27, Aleman has a long and violent record. He has been in and out of jail since he was 18 — or at least on the record because juvenile records are kept from the public. After looking at his run-ins with the law since he was 18, my bet is that the violent, criminal behavior started well before he became a legal adult.

At age 18 in September 2013, Aleman was convicted of assault with a firearm and sentenced to four years in state prison. However, he obviously didn't serve even half of his sentence because in July 2015 he had his parole revoked and was sentenced to 145 days in county lockup.

He had his parole revoked again in May 2016 and sentenced to 90 days in jail, and again in November of that year and spent 18 days in Santa Rita Jail.

In November 2017, Aleman was arrested and charged with, among other offenses, possession of a firearm by a felon, carrying a loaded firearm in a city, carrying a concealed firearm within a vehicle and possession of methamphetamine.

In 2018, Aleman pleaded no contest to one charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and was sentenced to three years in San Quentin, with 182 days for credit for time served. The balance of the complaint was dismissed.

In September 2020, he was arrested for public intoxication, in May 2021 for possession of a firearm by an addict and in December 2021 for possession of a controlled narcotic.

California's gun laws are among the most restrictive, if not the strictest, in the United States. In California, as in many other states, felons are prohibited from possessing firearms. Yet Aleman was indeed in possession of a concealed firearm July 16, 2022.

Strict gun laws are obviously not working. Telling violent criminals they can't possess a firearm is not working.

As of Jan. 1, 2022, according to the California Department of Justice's Armed and Prohibited Persons System annual report, 24,509 individuals on the prohibited list are known to possess firearms. Of that number, 54% on the list are prohibited due to a felony conviction.

The department's recommendations to get firearms from prohibited people boils down to money to enforce a currently unfunded mandate that county courts confiscate or transfer firearms from felons, money to offer competitive pay for its officers and money to modernize databases.

We need our elected representatives like Gov. Gavin Newsom and Congressman Eric Swalwell to stop posturing for their party and voters and focus on funding mandates that will get guns out of the hands of violent felons.

It's too late for Antonio Vargas and his family, but maybe we can stop this from happening again. ■

About the Cover

Noelle Wilder stars as Joseph in the Stage 1 Theatre bilingual ASL production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," which opens at the Firehouse Arts Center on Aug. 13. Photo by Gino Lucas. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

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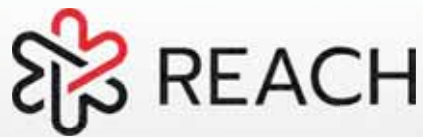
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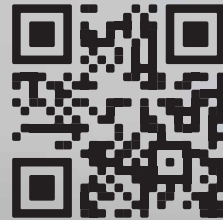


Tri-Valley REACH is hosting its annual fundraiser, "REACHing for Independence!"

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

On days you work from home, do you tend to eat more or less than on days you go into the office?



Emily Catalano
Marketing

I tend to eat more when I'm working from home. When I'm at the office, I spend much of the day interacting with people and therefore don't really have much time to eat. On the other hand, when I'm working from home, I have more down-time and tend to spend it preparing snacks for myself that I would never be able to make while at the office.



Chris Carroll
Lawyer

The sedentary lifestyle presented by COVID caused me to radically adjust my eating and exercise regime. The result is a far greater focus on what and when I eat. Overall, that remains consistent whether I'm at work or at home, though I suspect it may be slightly less consistent on days I'm in the office.



Shain Wasser
Lawyer

I definitely eat more on the days I go into the office because so many people bring in treats and other snacks, like donuts. Plus, when I'm in the office, I like to use that as an opportunity to meet up for a sit-down lunch with my co-workers, whereas when I'm at home I often don't eat lunch at all.



Maria Sandoval
Marriage/family therapist

I never really thought about it. I'm a creature of habit though and eat almost the exact same things every day, whether I'm working from home or in the office. The only difference really is that on the days I go into the office my lunch comes out of a brown paper bag as opposed to my fridge.



Travis Wall
Lawyer

I definitely eat more on the days I work from home. My "home office" is my dining room table, right off the kitchen, which makes it pretty effortless for me to "graze" every time I get up to stretch my legs.

— Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com



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DIGEST

First Weekends on Main

The Pleasanton Downtown Association's monthly First Weekends on Main program returns today through Sunday and includes the closure of Main Street to vehicular traffic for the weekend.

"Every first weekend of the month, come downtown and enjoy street closures for roaming our historical downtown, events and outdoor dining," PDA officials said.

The downtown street closures will extend from the Main Street bridge to south of Bernal Avenue every first weekend of the month, starting today at 4 p.m. and ending Sunday (Aug. 7) at 9 p.m. To learn more, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Back to school

This marks the final weekend on summer break for families and employees before classes begin for the Pleasanton Unified School District.

The first day of school is scheduled for next Wednesday (Aug. 10), when students at all grade levels will be returning to campuses across Pleasanton. To view PUSD's full 2022-23 academic year calendar, visit www.pleasantonusd.net.

EBRPD programs

East Bay Regional Park District facilities in the Tri-Valley have another busy summer Saturday ahead this weekend.

Naturalist Kristina Parkison will lead a group tour looking for migratory birds and bird habitat within Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area in Pleasanton from 9-10:30 a.m.

A bird-watching program led by naturalist Erica Stephens will also run at the same time at Las Trampas Regional Wilderness, focusing on information about birds of prey that live in the San Ramon park.

In the evening, the Tri-Valley Stargazers club will be supporting naturalist Alex Collins for a viewing at the Arroyo Road staging area of Del Valle Regional Park south of Livermore. The club will be providing telescopes to help visitors see star clusters, nebulae, constellations and more in the night sky from 8-9:30 p.m.

Go to www.ebparks.org. ■

Correction

The July 22 article "Dublin trustees confront texting scandal as DUSD attorney argues no Brown Act violations" misidentified Dublin Unified School District's legal counsel. Attorney Harold Freiman serves as legal counsel for the district under the contract with Lozano Smith. The Weekly regrets the error.

Residents set to decide \$395 million school bond on November ballot

PUSD board unanimously orders election to help fund facility improvements

By Christian Trujano
The Pleasanton school board is placing a \$395 million general obligation bond measure on the Nov. 8 general election ballot following a unanimous vote last week.

The bond would help fund the first tier phase of the Facility Master Plan, which was approved by the board in June.

"I consider the decision to move forward with this bond measure as one of the most critical, consequential and important decisions of my tenure on the board,"

Board Vice President Steve Maher said during the July 28 regular meeting. "For me to not vote in support of this bond would be fiscally and morally irresponsible."

He said failure to support the bond will deny current and future Pleasanton Unified School District students the opportunity to learn in modernized, up-to-date facilities just like the other districts in the Tri-Valley.

"We have, to put it really bluntly, substandard gyms," Maher said. "There's an absence of performing art centers for our

fantastic musicians and thespians. In fact I had a parent today tell me they went to the Dublin High School campus and lo and behold, beautiful performing arts."

Pleasanton residents last voted to pass a facilities bond in 2016, the \$270 million Measure 11, which covered about one third of the overall \$856 million identified facilities improvement needs. Since Measure 11 passed, and another bond measure failed in 2020, PUSD staff have been working on a Facility Master Plan update that would separate the

facility improvements of all 15 school sites into a two-tier system to address areas of high priority first.

Tier 1 will prioritize funding for the gym and theater constructions at both Amador Valley and Foothill high schools as well as new classrooms at Vintage Hills Elementary. The second tier will focus on deferred maintenance, restructuring of the visual performing arts in high schools, cafeteria and air conditioning and

See **SCHOOL BOND** on Page 10



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The parking lot at the 5997 Parkside Drive location is under consideration to be used as a Tri-Valley recycled water fill station if Pleasanton City Council approves an agreement on Aug. 16.

Parkside neighbors push back on plan to build recycled water fill station

Proposed location at corner of Hopyard will return to Pleasanton City Council for reconsideration

By Christian Trujano

With Pleasanton and the rest of the Tri-Valley heading into what is looking like another long drought season, many residents are once again seeing mandatory limitations on outdoor irrigation.

Pleasanton is currently under a local drought emergency and Stage 2 water shortage plan,

with a 15% water use reduction. That means if you have grass, plants or trees in your yard, you can only water them three times per week, which goes for Livermore and Dublin as well.

In order to help residents with household irrigation, the city of Pleasanton, Dublin San Ramon Services District, Zone 7 Water Agency and the city of Livermore

proposed to construct a recycled water fill station near the corner of Parkside Drive and Hopyard Road in Pleasanton where the former Zone 7 district headquarters is located.

But a growing number of Parkside neighborhood residents said they are not happy

See **WATER** on Page 6

Livermore puts hold on airport development

All proposals halted until 2023 as staff creates new policy

By Cierra Bailey

The Livermore Municipal Airport's development policy has been temporarily suspended amid plans to create new regulations that will better align development procedures with city requirements and industry standards, according to officials.

The Livermore City Council adopted a resolution to suspend the airport's existing development policy during its July 25 regular meeting. According to city staff, the existing policy has "insufficient language that does not allow for thorough guidance in the consideration of development proposals at the airport."

It was created by previous airport management in response to the original project to attract a fixed base operator to the airport. Airport staff are now working with a consultant on the creation of a new development policy that aims to improve upon the previous guidelines.

Upon Councilmember Bob Carling's request, City Manager Marianna Marysheva explained during the meeting how the process will go for creating the new policy.

"Staff will take time to draft a comprehensive policy and that

See **AIRPORT** on Page 8

Danville firm acquires JCPenney building in Stoneridge Mall

Pleasanton property bought by new investment group; future plans for site unclear

By JEANITA LYMAN

A freshly minted real estate company based in Danville has acquired the Stoneridge Shopping Center property that houses the JC Penney storefront in Pleasanton.

The recent acquisition comes approximately four months after Danville-based 300 Venture Group (3VG), a privately held real estate investment, development and advisory company, announced its launch and acquisition of a Napa property.

"This is an irreplaceable location, at the intersection of Interstates 580 and 680 and across the street from the West Dublin-Pleasanton BART station," said Kameron Klotz, a founding principal of 3VG, in a July 22 announcement. "We look forward to working with the community and stakeholders to create an innovative vision and execution for the property."

Along with Klotz, 3VG was founded by Jerry Hunt, Mark Pleis and Howard Overton.

"We founded 3VG earlier this year precisely to take advantage of these creative opportunities, which can add significant value to both the communities and our investors," Overton said. "We wanted to hit the ground running, and have certainly done so, and now have 12.4 acres and 232,000 square feet under control in high-profile locations. And we're continuing to pursue more opportunities this year."

The company's first acquisition, announced along with its launch, was described in 3VG's announcement as an "underutilized parcel in Downtown Napa" in March.

"3VG was formed to use our combined decades of experience and exceptionally complementary skill sets to give properties new life and purpose for the 2020s and beyond," Hunt said in the launch announcement on March 21. "We've been friends and colleagues for years, and now it's time to work together to execute



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The JCPenney property at Stoneridge Shopping Center now has a new owner, 300 Venture Group.

impeccably, have fun and create real value for our investors,

partners and the communities in which we're going to operate."

Terms of the JCPenney property transaction were not disclosed. ■

WATER

Continued from Page 5

with the 5997 Parkside Drive location and that it will congest their streets with unnecessary traffic.

"This would be a line of cars right next to our windows," Parkside resident Rick Schussel said during the July 19 Pleasanton City Council meeting. "Parkside is a residential street. We'd be living right next to a truck line."

Schussel was one of many Parkside residents who spoke during the open to the public section that night to voice their concerns about a lack of transparency with residents not knowing about the project and overall traffic safety issues.

Several of those residents said they were also never informed about the project and did not have a chance to address their concerns.

"There has not been enough transparency or visibility given to all the residents of Parkside, not just those in the immediate vicinity of (the Zone 7 building)," Parkside resident Laura Charteris said. "I would like to ask for more discussion and consultation, and I'm very much opposed to the site in a quiet residential area."

According to a frequently asked questions page on the Pleasanton Operation Services website, the city sent a notification out on June 21 and notice postcards were issued to neighbors within 1,000 feet.

Apart from the transparency issue, Charteris and others said

they are worried about the long line of cars the station could cause and how that would affect those living in the area and children coming home from school.

"Another safety concern also for the site would be its operation during school times with children commuting home from school on bikes," she said.

According to the city website, if approved and constructed the fill station operational hours are proposed for Mondays through Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To address traffic, the website states it will use a traffic control system involving cones and signage. The system will separate fill station users from other traffic using queuing areas and lane closures during fill station operating hours.

A couple of days after the meeting, Charteris started a petition on Change.org to ask the council not move forward with the project, which as of publication date has almost 300 signatures.

Now the council must once again decide during its Aug. 16 meeting, whether or not it should approve the multi-agency agreement to construct the fill station — the council has discussed the item four times and had originally approved the agreement on June 21.

City Manager Gerry Beaudin told the Weekly that city staff will bring the item back for reconsideration and if the council decides to rescind from the agreement, the next question will be if the council wants to continue pursuing a new location or not.

"I know that all of the cities that have been involved in the discussion so far are interested in providing recycled water filled stations in the Tri-Valley, and so whether we can get it done this year remains to be seen," Beaudin said. "It is something that as the drought continues, I think there will be interest in finding a viable site."

'Parkside is a residential street. We'd be living right next to a truck line.'

Rick Schussel,
Neighborhood resident

But the Parkside location was not the original site that was proposed to be used for the fill station.

Dan McIntyre, DSRSD's general manager, told the Weekly that the previous plan was to use a property owned by the district in Dublin on Gleason Drive.

It is a large parcel of undeveloped land near a recycled water pipeline, which is what feeds the pumps at a fill station — the reason the Parkside location was viable is because of the recycled water line across the street that supplies the Ken Mercer Sports Park.

Construction at that site was first projected to cost about \$970,000, but as the district began the bidding process, it saw numbers

between \$1.46 million and \$1.74 million, causing Pleasanton to back out from the agreement.

According to the FAQ webpage, the Tri-Valley agencies did consider other locations before choosing Parkside including the Livermore and DSRSD Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Livermore Wastewater Treatment Plant and other city-owned properties.

These sites were not deemed viable based on a variety of factors, including the high cost of construction to install a fill station, according to the website.

McIntyre said that in the interest of wanting to provide that amenity to residents, the Parkside location seemed like the most convenient choice. Construction was, for the most part, ready to go with the contractor already lined up.

But because the city of Pleasanton had not issued a temporary use permit and now with residents speaking out, the project has been stalled until Pleasanton decides to continue with the project.

"If not passed then it's probably real late in the year for another site, so we probably would not have a fill station this summer," McIntyre said.

Pleasanton City Councilmember Jack Balch, who originally had issues with the cost of the project, told the Weekly that there are several nuances to the fill station such as how the 17 proposed filling stalls will compare to the 40 spots at the DSRSD Water Recycling plant that closed in 2017.

He said that so far, the \$160,000 that Pleasanton would share in

operation and construction costs would be covered by the \$100 per customer that the fill station would charge as a season pass.

But that's contingent on seeing the same numbers as the old fill station at the plant, which were as high as 3,600 in 2015, according to a June 21 staff report.

He also said that he understands it's not an optimal location and thinks residents do bring up good points about traffic issues as well as ideas to help mitigate traffic congestion such as an appointment system so people don't wait in line for hours just to find out there's no more water left — which is why he said it's important to bring in the residents to be a part of the discussion.

"If we're going to ask this neighborhood to carry the load of this for our community, we need to understand that it's the appropriate location for that and that the community is asking the Parkside neighborhood to do that," Balch said.

Balch said that with the drought only getting worse, the council needs to work with residents to get the fill station project done right so people can continue taking care of their yards.

"I think it will be important that the residents get to add their feedback to the record and we make sure we ask further and more detailed questions," Balch said. "I'm not sure where the council will go ... I think that we should be trying to still see if there's a possibility for this year because I don't think our drought will be abating on Oct. 31." ■

Livermore sewer line extension project headed to Nov. 8 election

Measure aims to protect groundwater, expand wine country uses, proponents say

By CIERRA BAILEY

The proposed measure to extend sewer service beyond the urban growth boundary to serve wine country uses is on its way to the Nov. 8 general election ballot.

At its July 25 regular meeting, the Livermore City Council approved a resolution calling for the election and establishing the deadlines for arguments for and against the measure, as well as other administrative items that need to be conveyed to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office to place it on the ballot.

The initiative — formally titled “South Livermore Sewer Extension

Project” — was initially proposed by the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC). It aims to protect the groundwater from contamination and allow a limited expansion of wine country-related businesses in the area.

TVC board chair Lori Souza spoke to the council on behalf of the organization during the meeting. “I just wanted to reassure you that we are prepared to do our part to prepare the ballot argument and rebuttal argument or defer argument in favor of the measure,” she said.

As part of its vote and direction, the council appointed TVC to prepare the argument and rebuttal.

Timelines for ballot measure

arguments have been modeled after the provisions set forth by California Elections Code. Accordingly, direct arguments for or against the measure are due within 14 days from calling the election and rebuttal arguments for or against are due within 10 days after the final filing date for direct arguments, city officials said in a staff report.

At its July 11 meeting, the council had previously certified the supplemental environmental impact report and approved the ballot question and language for the initiative.

The approved ballot question reads as, “Shall the ordinance amending the South Livermore

Urban Growth Boundary policies in the City of Livermore's General Plan to allow the City to extend sewer service to permitted uses within the South Livermore Valley Area Plan Planning Area be adopted?”

Should voters pass the measure, the initiative would modify South Livermore urban growth boundary policies and enable the city to extend sewer service and property owners to receive municipal services. The project would be constructed in phases and within existing rights-of-way.

Connection to the line would not be required but would be available at the request of individual property

owners and subject to an out-of-area service agreement or annexation into the city, according to city staff.

According to TVC, the construction of the proposed sewer line expansion project would have no direct impact on Livermore taxpayers. The city also 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.

The measure would need to receive above 50% of the votes in favor of it in order to pass, according to city attorney Jason Alcalá. According to city staff, there are currently 56,968 registered voters in Livermore. ■

Pleasanton resident, Concord principal Fey picked to lead Amador Valley High School

Says he looks forward to embedding himself in hometown district

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton school board recently announced that Jonathan Fey, a Pleasanton resident who has worked in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District, will be the new principal for Amador Valley High School.

The trustees welcomed Fey at their July 28 meeting, where he took some time to thank the board members and the community for their support as he transitions into his new role with the Pleasanton Unified School District.

“I want to say thank you for the trust that you're placing in me in terms of being the instructional and curriculum leader of this wonderful and great school,” Fey said. “It's going to be such a great opportunity to embed myself even more into this community that I love and support.”

Fey is coming to Amador after serving four years as principal at Monte Gardens Elementary School in Concord. Before that, he was the vice principal at Northgate High School in Walnut Creek.

He succeeds Joshua Butterfield, who stepped down from Amador in June after three years as principal for a districtwide position as PUSD's new director of secondary education. Fey becomes Amador's sixth principal in eight years, following a series of resignations, promotions and interims.

Allison Prewitt, communication and community relations assistant, told the Weekly that Fey was known for, “establishing strong

relationships with staff and families, as well as maintaining a student-centered mindset when making school decisions.”

She said that before his experience as an administrator, Fey served for 20 years as a high school instrumental music teacher at schools throughout California.

“Jonathan is a former band teacher so he understands how to conduct various groups and that's an important skill set at the high school level because you've got all these

different departments that have different priorities,” PUSD Superintendent David Haglund said.

Fey has lived in the Pleasanton community for 18 years, and although each of his kids went to Foothill High School, he said he looks forward to joining the Amador team.

“I just really appreciate your guys' vote of confidence in my abilities to be able to keep this school a great and wonderful place,” Fey said.

Haglund said Fey is a perfect fit

for the job because of his personality and the fact that he has lived in the community for so long. The superintendent added he has faith that Fey's community connections and relationships with students has fully

prepared him for his new role.

“The people who were on the panel from Amador were really excited about having him as their next principal so I'm excited to have him join the team,” Haglund said. ■



Jonathan Fey

TAKE US ALONG



Streetwise on the road: Pleasanton Weekly Streetwise contributor Nancy Lewis and husband Jeff recently traveled to Tahiti, Mo'orea and French Polynesia — and compiled a Streetwise column abroad in the process.

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

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Successful bald eagle fledgling rescue at Del Valle Regional Park

Park staff worked around fallen branches, debris to recover eaglet

By NICOLE GONZALES

Staff members of Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore lauded the outcome of a recent fledgling bald eagle rescue — a mission that kept park officials and nearby residents on their toes until the rescue was complete and the animal's recovery period was over.

The eaglet rescue has since been deemed a success by park staff. It was made possible by nearby ranch managers, Del Valle park biologists and a medical team at Lindsay Wildlife Hospital in Walnut Creek.

The nest was already deemed at risk by park officials because previous nests have fallen from the same pine tree over the last several years. It was on June 11 that a collapsed tree was spotted by close-by ranch managers who alerted park staff.

"A huge trunk and branch supporting the nest collapsed, likely in one of our recent high-wind events," said Doug Bell, wildlife program manager with the East Bay Regional Park District. "When we arrived, we could see the eagle possibly trapped with the debris branches."

While eagle rescues at regional parks are not so common, their location can make them susceptible to environmental changes.

"An eagle's nest is a large structure high in a tree, so a lot of natural events can happen, such as lightning strikes, high winds, or extreme events like ever increasing wildland fires which of course can overtake a nest tree and torch it," Bell said.

After locating the bald eagle fledgling, Bell and wildlife biologist David Riensche coordinated the rescue together.

"We devised a plan whereby Dave would scramble above the eagle and come down-slope to it, while I would approach it from below," Bell said.

Before Bell and Riensche were able to make it down to the location, ranch managers and park naturalist Alex Collins kept watch on the eaglet in the event that it moved and injured itself more.

"This is a safety precaution for the eaglet because you never know what an eaglet might try to do when you approach it," Bell said. "We didn't want it to fly off and get



Staff at the Lindsay Wildlife Hospital facility in Walnut Creek tend to the injured bird.

EBRPO

into more trouble."

Once Bell and Riensche arrived at the location, they attempted to recover the eaglet from the fallen debris. Bell recalled, "As we got closer to the bird it began to wiggle through the network of branches,

just as Dave was able to take hold of its wings I came up from below and managed to wrap my hands around its legs and control its feet and talons to prevent it doing any harm to us or itself."

After the two had securely grabbed

the bird, it was still wrapped in branches and debris and required detangling to be pulled out — the most difficult part of the rescue, according to Bell.

"We still had to disentangle it from everything without letting go of anything," he said. Once they were able to free the eaglet from the fallen tree, it was transported to Lindsay Wildlife Hospital.

The hospital conducted several tests on the eagle, as well as X-rays and found a fracture to the bird's left carpometacarpus — or its distal wing bone. A pin was inserted into the wing bone that helped to heal the fracture; the pin was removed once the bone healed.

"The eaglet was deemed ready to be released in just two and half weeks since its injury," Bell said. Once fully healed, the bird was brought back to the area of the fallen tree and released. Bell said nearby ranchers have even reported seeing the eaglet flying around the area.

Upon successful completion of the rescue, Bell felt "relieved and misty-eyed with joy to know the eagle family was reunited."

"As the bald eagle population increases, particularly in human-use areas, we can expect more such eagle-human encounters, both good (rescues) and bad (illegal actions)," he said. ■

BART reinstates face mask requirement, effective immediately

Board also approves wage increases for workers

BART's Board of Directors voted last week to reinstate a face mask requirement on BART trains effective immediately.

The board's vote on July 28 to reinstitute the face mask requirement is now in effect until and inclusive Oct. 1, unless BART directors decide to extend the mandate further.

The temporary amendment to the transit district's Code of Conduct requires riders to wear face masks that fully cover a person's nose and mouth in paid areas of the system

with limited exceptions. This requirement applies to trains and all portions of stations beyond the fare gates. Children ages 2 and under, as well as individuals with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing masks, are exempt from the mandate.

At its Sept. 22 meeting, the BART board will place an action item on its agenda to determine if the mandate should be extended.

A BART spokesperson said last week free face masks are available

at station agent booths and from all safety staff for those who need one.

BART police will continue its education-based enforcement of the mask requirement by offering free masks to anyone who needs one before taking any enforcement action, which could include a citation of up to \$75, or being ejected from the paid area.

In other news

The BART board on July 28 also ratified tentative agreements to

existing labor contracts that will give wage increases to BART workers.

The wage increases will total 10.5% over three years for American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Amalgamated Transit Union and Service Employees International Union and non-represent employees and 10.5% over four years for the agency's police unions, BART officials said.

The total four-year cost of the wage increases for BART's operating budget is expected to be \$123.8

million, and the four-year capital budget costs, which are primarily reimbursable from capital projects and other sources outside of the operating budget, are expected to be \$42.2 million, officials said.

The last general wage increase for BART employees was in July 2020, though higher-level managers and executive staff didn't receive a raise, transit agency officials said.

In 2020, most employees received a 2.75% increase. BART police received a wage increase in July 2021.

BART officials said not increasing wages would have compounded current staffing challenges in a tight labor market and would have potentially impacted service. ■

—Bay City News Service

AIRPORT

Continued from Page 5

policy will go through at least two rounds of review — one is with the airport commission that is comprised of pilots and non-pilots and there will be an opportunity for the public to weigh in on that policy during commission meetings. The second round of reviews will be with the City Council where the City Council will review the commission's recommendations and staff recommendations as well," she said.

After Marysheva's comments, Mayor Bob Woerner briefly addressed the issue, saying, "I'm pleased (this) is on the agenda. I

think that's what we need to do to look at the airport and to get the input on it."

Development at the Livermore Airport has been a point of contention for residents living near the facility in recent years largely with respect to a fizzled-out proposal by Oakland-based charter airliner KaiserAir to relocate its corporate offices and develop new air facilities to accommodate its aircraft, including Boeing 737s.

At the time that the proposal was under consideration, residents from Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin banded together in opposition of the expansion, citing concerns about increased noise, safety issues and the possibility of



An airplane taxis at the Livermore Municipal Airport earlier this year.

CHUCK DECKERT

diminished property values.

Back in February, during a Livermore-Pleasanton City Council

Liaison Subcommittee meeting, then-Livermore city manager Marc Roberts announced that the project

would not be moving forward because the company had not submitted the required documents and their reservation of the parcel at the airport was set to expire.

While the KaiserAir project was at the forefront of the debate at the time, many residents who attended that meeting spoke out against any expansion of airport uses or new development.

As the process to create a new policy gets underway, the City Council's recent action shelves all development proposals for the airport until Dec. 31, with the exception of a parcel under lease development and negotiation adjacent to Kittyhawk Road and Interstate 580, officials said. ■

Free mattress disposal available to county residents

Program aims to reduce number of illegally dumped mattresses, box springs

All Alameda County residents can now dispose of up to five mattresses and box springs a day for free from Monday to Saturday every week.

The free drop-off program is run by Waste Management and supported by the Mattress Recycling Council's Bye Bye Mattress program. County residents, including those not serviced by Waste

Management, can bring their unwanted mattresses and box springs to the company's Davis Street facility at 2615 Davis St. in San Leandro.

The drop-off site is open Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We're thrilled to provide this convenient program to all county residents and hope it helps to

reduce the number of illegally dumped mattresses and box springs in our communities," said Barry Skolnick, area vice president for WM Northern California-Nevada.

Mattresses not accepted by this program include severely damaged, wet, twisted, frozen or spoiled mattresses or box springs, any mattress or box spring infested with bed bugs, mattress pads or toppers,

sleeping bags, pillows, car beds, crib mattresses, air mattresses, futons and sofa bed mattresses.

Residents seeking to get rid of other materials or more than five mattresses combined in one day will be charged Waste Management standard disposal rates. A sixth mattress or box spring dropped will be charged \$64.03. Rates for other materials can be found at

davisstreet.wm.com.

The program is funded through a \$10.50 recycling fee collected when a mattress or box spring is purchased in California. Discarded mattresses at the site will be disassembled and recycled, and further made into new products such as carpet padding, construction rebar, insulation, filters and mulch. ■

—Mengyuan Dong, BCN Foundation

Swalwell bill aims to increase affordable housing for teachers

'Educator Down Payment Assistance Act' would establish grant program

By JEANITA LYMAN

U.S. Reps. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) and Jahana Hayes (D-Conn.) have introduced a bill aimed at assisting teachers with homeownership, as impacts of a national teacher shortage rock the Tri-Valley and the rest of the country.

House Resolution 8340, dubbed the "Educator Down Payment

Assistance Act," would provide a grant program that would support local governing and educational bodies in providing down payment assistance to full-time teachers and school employees who are first-time homebuyers.

"Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, America was facing a shortage of qualified early childhood and K-12 teachers because

they are so often underpaid and overworked, especially in low-income communities," Swalwell said in a statement last month. "The Educator Down Payment Assistance Act can help address these disparities by helping teachers and other educational professionals afford homes in the communities where they teach."

The move comes as local

teachers' unions in the Tri-Valley have pushed for cost-of-living increases aimed in particular at softening the economic blows to school employees facing the expenses of the area, and the associated housing crunch.

Nationally, the announcement from congressmembers' offices emphasizes that the continued COVID-19 pandemic has only

made matters worse for educators and schools, with housing affordability posing the largest obstacle to entry-level teachers in metropolitan areas.

The bill would support grant funding for up to \$25,000 of down payment assistance for educators and school employees who have served for five or more years and make up to 120% to 180% of the median income, depending on costs of living where they are.

HR 8340 was introduced on July 12 and has been referred to the House Financial Services Committee. ■

BART uses weed-eating goats to reduce fire risk, noise pollution

Can mow 5 to 25 acres at each location

BART is employing goats to reduce fire risk and cut noise pollution on hillsides along train routes in the Bay Area, continuing a practice that began about five years ago and has created other unintended benefits.

Transit agency officials say the four-legged weed-eaters offer advantages to using lawn mowers and other power tools, which carry higher risk of sparking fires and create air pollution.

The goats can maneuver steep hillsides more easily and make much less noise than gas-powered

brush-cutting machines, thereby decreasing any disruptions to neighboring areas, said Glen Eddy, BART's assistant superintendent of way and facilities, grounds maintenance.

Prior to the goats' arrival, BART would plow or mow grass and weeds, Eddy said in a news release, "but in many locations, there just isn't room for equipment to get in there."

BART's 450 goats are contracted from the Coalinga-based, family-owned business Living Systems Land Management, which owns

about 4,000 goats. The animals are a cross between Spanish and Boer goats, breeds ideal for this type of work because they typically eat every edible morsel in sight. The goats also work faster than any human could, Eddy said in the statement, clearing about one acre each day.

The goats mow anywhere from 5 to 25 acres at each location where they're grazed. The goats' work typically costs BART about \$800 to \$1,200 an acre, and they usually work for about six weeks in the fire-prone summer months.

An unintended benefit from the project is that the work has enabled the goat herder to put his four children through college.

Herder Zenobia Mancha stays with the goats 24 hours a day, sleeping in a trailer beside the grazing property at night to ward off predators, such as mountain lions, and to make sure the goats don't escape.

Mancha, a Peruvian national who worked as an electrical engineer back home, has resided in the United States on an H-2A temporary agricultural worker visa for

nearly three years. He intends to return to Peru — with the hope of one day settling in the U.S. permanently — at the end of this year.

The herding work, he said, has enabled him to put his four children through university. Two of his children are now engineers, one is studying accounting and another law.

Back home in Peru, Mancha grew up around grazing animals. His 80-year-old father still maintains a herd of sheep, he said. The work can be challenging — and lonely — but it's worth it for Mancha, who takes great pride in his children's educations.

"There's a lot of pleasure in life," Mancha said beaming, "But nothing like the pleasure of educating your children." ■

—Bay City News Service



BART VIA BCN

Goats on a hillside in the East Bay, where they are eating brush as part of a BART program to reduce fire danger.

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Zone 7 selects Palmer as new board president

Figuers also installed as vice president in reorganization meeting

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Zone 7 Water Agency Director Sarah Palmer was elected as the new president of the agency's Board of Directors during an annual reorganization meeting late last month.

The Livermore resident, who was re-elected to a fifth term on the board in the June primary, will now oversee the appointment of committees and will



Sarah Palmer

be responsible for interpreting the policies, programs and needs of the agency to the public.

"Zone 7 and all water agencies across our state face both interesting and difficult challenges with drought, climate change and infrastructure issues to name a few," Palmer said in a news release. "The Zone 7 board and our capable staff will work together to ensure safe and reliable water for both our urban and agricultural needs."

Palmer has served on the Zone 7 board since 2006. She is a retired science teacher and has worked in cancer research at the

University of California, Berkeley, as well as in the medical diagnostics industry.

Palmer has bachelor's degrees in biology and political science from New York University and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Toronto.

"As board president, I am honored to help spearhead Zone 7's directions on the road ahead," Palmer said.

She also serves as the president of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority program, which is a joint powers authority governed by seven representatives from 16 Public Water

Agencies.

The program is working on a project that would, "modernize the water transport infrastructure of the State Water Project in the Delta by adding new facilities to divert water and upgrading the current conveyance system to also include a single underground tunnel," according to the programs website.

During the same July 20 meeting, the Zone 7 board selected Director Sandy Figuers to serve as vice president alongside Palmer.

A Livermore resident and groundwater geologist, Figuers has been a board member since

2008. He previously served on the Zone 7 board for 12 years in the late 1980s and into the '90s.

Palmer also sworn in for her new four-year term alongside directors Dennis Gams and Olivia Sanwong, who were each re-elected for an additional term in the June 7 primary. Gams and Sanwong are both going into their second term.

The board also welcomed newly elected Director Dawn Benson, who took the fourth open seat at the June 7 primary. She previously sat as an elected member of the Dublin San Ramon Services District Board of Directors. ■

SCHOOL BOND

Continued from Page 5

heating equipment.

The approved Nov. 8 bond will utilize a tax rate of \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed value for Pleasanton property owners to fund that first tier round of projects. The second tier would be funded through State Office of Public School Construction funds, the sale of the district office, state or local funding, or saved money from other construction bids, according to district staff.

'One of the most critical, consequential and important decisions of my tenure on the board.'

Steve Maher,
Board vice president

Despite the bond receiving unanimous approval, several concerns arose during last week's meeting such as Trustee Kelly Mokashi touching on the promise of a 10th elementary school in Measure II. She said her main question was how the board was going to rebuild the trust with voters after scrapping that project.

"That does have to be addressed because voters will be asking about that and we need to have a solid response to that," Mokashi said.

Board President Mark Miller addressed that topic saying that he thinks it's a cop out to suggest that the district can't spend money wisely because it didn't

build a 10th elementary school.

"This district had a Measure II and spent the money for II with the most high integrity you could possibly do," Miller said. "We have honored every promise that we had made including the promise to not spend the \$35 million on an elementary school if we decided not to move forward with it; that is the promise we made."

He said that declining enrollment and additional construction costs added to the decision to not move forward with a 10th elementary school, a decision he said was the right thing to do.

"No rational person would make a decision at this point to spend \$48 (million) or \$60 million to build a new elementary school when already we have far fewer students in the 700 per elementary school when we do our rezoning," Miller said.

Another concern Mokashi and a few public commenters spoke out on was the Amador Theater rebuild project being something that should have been reconsidered to be renovated rather than completely torn down.

Former student trustee Saachi Bhayani said during public comment that the board should renovate the historic theater rather than spending the money to completely rebuild the theater.

She added that when the board attempted to pass the \$323 million Measure M bond in the March 2020 primary election, the district was quoted for \$5 million for the theater rebuild and now that it is a much higher cost, the plan should change too. Measure M earned majority support from voters but failed to clear the 55% threshold required of school facility bond measures.

"Construction escalations don't justify a seven times increase, so why don't we just renovate it and save taxpayer money," Bhayani said. "Due to the upcoming recession and rising construction

costs, I think it's best that we make sure that we lower the cost for our taxpayers to ensure that this bond gets passed."

Miller said that it is possible that the board decides later on to renovate the Amador Theater rather than rebuilding it because of the fact that it is one scenario out of several laid out by the district.

Bhayani also spoke on the Amador gym, which several public commenters have expressed concerns about its deteriorating condition over the course of the Facility Master Plan discussion these past few months.

Jaiden Reilly, a recent Amador graduate and volleyball player, said her season was postponed due to the pandemic and forced the team to play during the rainy season, which was an issue due to the cracks in the roof that let water inside the gym.

"It got really unsafe," Reilly said. "We had to take frequent breaks and pauses during games playing other schools. We had a lot of falls, a lot of rolled ankles."

Bhayani added to Mokashi's previous sentiment of voters not trusting the district saying that the board should have invested in addressing the gym a long time ago.

Trustee Joan Laursen commented on the Amador gym saying that it was supposed to be included in Measure II but it got taken out because the board was concerned about whether the bond would pass or not.

Kathleen Ruegsegger, a former board trustee in the 1990s, also spoke out about her general concerns about the bond touching on not just the theater rebuild and the elementary school that was promised, but also on how she felt the issuing of the bond was being rushed.

"You are voting on this bond roughly two weeks before it's due to the county," Ruegsegger said.

"You are voting while parents are enjoying their summer and likely not paying attention to your actions."

'You are voting while parents are enjoying their summer and likely not paying attention.'

Kathleen Ruegsegger,
Former PUSD trustee

She said the district should build the elementary school that was promised and use smaller bonds to address the high school gyms before asking voters to trust the board again with another bond.

However, Miller and the rest of the board still showed overall support for the bond and all of them said that it is important to invest in these improvements for the sake of the students.

"We've only passed one bond measure in 25 years and I know that we're living in very difficult times right now," Trustee Mary Jo Carreon said. "There are many things that we cannot control. We can't control COVID, we can't control politics. But you know what we can control? We can control what happens in our town. We can make a difference in the lives of our students by working together and passing this bond."

District staff must now submit the resolution to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office and the clerk of the Board of Supervisors on Aug. 12. Following that, staff are planning to develop an implementation plan that will go into more detail on project and construction management as well as other planning regarding

the phasing of the Facility Master Plan.

The bond project list includes: the construction of elementary classrooms to support statewide expansion of transitional kindergarten; high school visual and performing arts centers; new and upgraded athletic facilities; updated plumbing to support safe drinking water; and site improvements for students with disabilities.

After re-evaluating two tier 1 projects, the funding for transitional kindergarten classrooms at Donlon and Fairlands elementary schools will be included in Measure II.

Other projects covered in Measure II are the rebuilding of Lydiksen Elementary School and new science classroom buildings at Amador Valley and Foothill High School and at Hart Middle School which is currently slated for completion in fall 2022.

Measure II also began to address roofing and HVAC repair and replacements as well as making safety upgrades and providing updated classroom technology and infrastructure.

The official Nov. 8 bond measure ballot question will ask voters:

"To continue replacing/modernizing deteriorating plumbing, roofs, electrical/HVAC systems, classrooms, science labs, performing arts, physical education facilities/spaces, and alternative high school facilities; constructing career technical/early childhood education classrooms; making safety/access improvements for students with disabilities; shall Pleasanton Unified School District's measure authorizing \$395,000,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying approximately \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation (\$26,000,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, be adopted, requiring audits/oversight?" ■

POLICE BULLETIN

Pedestrian dies in suspected drunk-driving crash in Dublin

Police on Tuesday released the identity of the Dublin woman who died two nights earlier after being struck by an SUV driven by a man who was allegedly intoxicated with his child in the vehicle.

Roni Gage, 39, succumbed to her injuries after the collision while she was walking in southbound lanes on Dougherty Road around 10 p.m. Sunday, according to Capt. Nate Schmidt of Dublin Police Services.

“Dublin Police would like to extend our thoughts and prayers to the friends and family of Ms. Gage,” Schmidt said on Tuesday.

The captain also confirmed new details about the collision, including that the arrested driver — identified as Giovanni Fissore, 42, of Livermore — faces a possible child endangerment charge on top of drunk-driving allegations because his child was in the vehicle at the time.

The case has not yet been referred to prosecutors for a formal charging decision, the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office said on Tuesday. Police investigations into suspected intoxicated driving can often last for months or more before being completed due to toxicology testing, interviews and other reasons.

The deadly collision, which was the city’s first of the year, occurred in the 6200 block of Dougherty Road, about a half-mile north of the thoroughfare’s intersection with Interstate 580.

Officers arrived to find a woman — later identified as Gage — was struck by a Chevrolet SUV while walking in southbound lanes of Dougherty Road. The reason she was in the roadway and her direction of travel remain unclear. “She was nowhere near an intersection or crosswalk but she was clearly in the lanes of traffic,” Schmidt said.

Paramedics attempted life-saving measures but Gage was pronounced dead on Sunday night, according to Schmidt.

Police arrested Fissore, who remained at the scene, on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol and child endangerment. Neither the driver nor his child were injured in the crash, according to Schmidt.

The fatality remains under investigation by the Dublin Police Services traffic unit. Anyone who may have witnessed the crash, or have other information related to the case, can contact the department at 925-833-6638.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- Police continue to investigate the death of a woman found inside a San Ramon apartment last week as a suspicious death case, according to a department spokesperson.

A male individual was arrested in the area after being contacted by officers, but the charges were unrelated to the suspicious death investigation, according to San Ramon police Lt. Tami Williams.

“Based on the investigation surrounding this incident, the San Ramon Police Department has not uncovered any information indicating an ongoing threat to members of the San Ramon community,” Williams said told the Weekly.

The situation unfolded at approximately 8 a.m. on July 26 when San Ramon police officers were dispatched to a residence in an apartment complex on the 4000 block of Crestfield Drive in the Dougherty Valley. A caller reported an unresponsive female to 911, Williams said.

Police and San Ramon Valley Fire personnel responded, but the woman was declared dead. “The circumstances surrounding her passing continue to be investigated as a suspicious death,” Williams said.

The woman’s identity was still not available for public release as of press time, pending formal identification by the Contra Costa County Coroner’s Division and notification of next of kin, according to Williams.

The circumstances of the male detainee’s arrest were not immediately released.

—Jeremy Walsh

- Pleasanton police arrested an Oakland man on suspicion of possessing a stolen vehicle after confronting him and a female associate with guns drawn in a retail parking lot after the pair near the Cadillac in question were initially noncompliant with officers, according to a department spokesman.

The midday encounter on July 19 caught the eye of shoppers around the Trader Joe’s lot on Santa Rita Road and generated some chatter on local social media channels.

“I can confirm that guns were drawn which is common for a high-risk stop or felony contact such as this case of a stolen vehicle. The response was from responding patrol officers and the incident was resolved within minutes,” Pleasanton police Sgt. Marty Billdt told the Weekly. “No shots were fired.”

The situation unfolded when Pleasanton police dispatch received an alert from its automated license plate reader system on July 19 about a Cadillac Escalade reported stolen out of Oakland being spotted at the Santa Rita Road and Rosewood Drive intersection, Billdt said.

Officers found the SUV and contacted two people standing near the vehicle in the Trader Joe’s parking lot. “Initially, both individuals were non-compliant with officers, but they were eventually detained,” Billdt said.

A 29-year-old Oakland man was arrested and booked into Santa Rita Jail on suspicion of possession of a stolen vehicle as well as on two outstanding warrants for a stolen vehicle, according to the sergeant.

A 25-year-old woman with the man was released at the scene.

—Jeremy Walsh

- An arrest was made last month for a 1980 homicide in Union City and a 1996 homicide in Solano County through new DNA evidence, according to police.

The suspect, 76-year-old James Ray Gary from Fairfield, has been linked in the 1980 murder of 46-year-old Latrelle Lindsay from Union City. Her cause of death was determined to be strangulation and blunt force trauma. She had also been a victim of sexual assault, Union City police said.

At the time, no suspect was identified, but a DNA sample was sent to a law enforcement database, according to police.

In March 1996, a body was found on Interstate 780 near Laurel Street in Vallejo. The victim was Winifred Douglas, a 46-year-old woman from the East Bay who also died from strangulation and blunt force injuries.

Evidence from that homicide with DNA was sent to the California Department of Justice for analysis, police said, but no match was made until 2012, when the Solano County Sheriff’s Office was informed that the DNA profile from their homicide matched a piece of evidence from the Union City 1980 homicide.

Last month, the Union City Police Department and the Solano County Sheriff’s Office were notified that the DNA profile identified from their two cases also matched a sex crime investigated by another North Bay police department in 2021, according to police.

Detectives were able to identify Gary as a possible suspect and on July 18 submitted DNA samples

from the suspect that were determined as matches for all three. A warrant was then obtained for his arrest and to search his home. Gary was arrested on the afternoon of July 19 and was later booked into Solano County Jail on suspicion of homicide. He is being held without bail and additional charges are expected to be filed for Union City’s 1980 homicide, police said.

—Olivia Green, BCN Foundation

- Denton Carlson, a captain and longtime public spokesperson with the San Ramon Police Department, was sworn in as the department’s new chief of police last week following the retirement of his predecessor.

Craig Stevens, who announced his retirement as chief of police in March, had been serving in the position on an interim basis since then, as city officials have gone through the months-long process of selecting his successor, which included a nationwide search.

“I am excited to serve as the San Ramon Police Department’s next chief of police,” Carlson said. “The city of San Ramon is a fantastic place to live, work, and play. Knowing I will have the privilege to work side-by-side with the incredible police officers of this agency as we strive to protect and serve all members of the San Ramon community to the best of our ability is humbling. I look forward to everything we will accomplish as a police department and a community.”

Carlson has been with SRPD since its founding in 2007, and previously



Denton Carlson

worked in the San Ramon area when the city was under contract with the Contra Costa County Sheriff’s Office. Since 2015, he has been at the head of the department’s community outreach efforts, including the establishment of a Community Outreach and Crime Prevention Division at the department.

“Denton has been serving this community for 20 years, and has helped shape several key aspects of the department,” Mayor David Hudson said. “We are fortunate to have him as our next chief of police.”

Carlson was promoted to captain in 2017, and has served as director of the city’s office of emergency management since 2015. He holds a masters degree in emergency services administration from California State University, Long Beach, and received the Dorothy Harris Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence during his studies at the the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Command College.

Carlson got his start in law enforcement as a deputy with the sheriff’s office in 1998, before being contracted to San Ramon in 2002. His titles since joining SRPD have included detective, corporal, sergeant and lieutenant.

He has also served as the Citizens Academy coordinator, training officer for law enforcement academy recruits, and supervisor of the department’s professional standards and training.

The changing of the guard at the top of SRPD made Carlson the department’s fifth chief since it was founded.

The San Ramon City Council honored Stevens’ tenure and swore in Carlson during its regular meeting on July 26. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

July 29

Domestic battery

■ 12:49 a.m. on Johnson Drive

Warrant arrest

■ 8:06 p.m. on the 5500 block of Johnson Drive

July 28

Theft

■ 12:26 a.m., 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft

■ 8:39 a.m. on the 5000 block of Golden Road

■ 8:55 a.m. on the 5000 block of Golden Road

■ 7:26 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Vandalism

■ 11:28 a.m. on the 1200 block of Orloff Drive

Drug violation

■ 11:54 a.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Domestic battery

■ 1:36 p.m. on Mirador Drive

July 27

Warrant arrest

■ 4:29 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 9:27 a.m. on Owens Drive

Graffiti

■ 9:18 a.m. on the 600 block of Junipero Street

■ 1:10 p.m. at Valley Avenue and Koll Center Parkway

Domestic battery

■ 11:30 a.m. on Blossom Court

Theft from structure

■ 11:42 a.m. on the 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

■ 9:23 p.m. on the 7800 block of Paseo Santa Cruz

July 26

Embezzlement

■ 12:34 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Burglary

■ 6:25 a.m. on the 6100 block of Stoneridge Drive

■ 9:11 a.m. on the 5100 block of Independence Drive

Theft

■ 7:51 a.m., 1100 block of Quarry Lane; catalytic converter theft

■ 5:24 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

July 25

Drug violation

■ 12:03 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Warrant arrest

■ 12:30 a.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

■ 6:51 a.m., 400 block of Boulder Court; catalytic converter theft

■ 1:29 p.m., 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 2:42 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 4:23 p.m. on the 27700 block of The Old Road

■ 4:42 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 5:17 p.m., 2300 block of Santa Rita Road; bicycle theft

■ 9:54 p.m., 7000 block of Johnson Drive; catalytic converter theft

DUI

■ 7:41 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Vandalism

■ 11:41 a.m. on the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road

Fraud

■ 1:30 p.m. on the 4500 block of Muirwood Drive

Trespassing/prowling

■ 2:38 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

July 24

Theft

■ 12:11 a.m., 4700 block of Willow Road; auto theft

■ 10:49 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Road.; catalytic converter theft

'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

Stage 1 Theatre highlights accessibility, creativity in bilingual ASL production in Pleasanton

By NICOLE GONZALES

The Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton will be hosting a bilingual production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" this month.

"I hope, first and foremost, that the audience walks out entertained and filled with joy," director Patricia Pitpitan told the Weekly. "This show is such a good time, and the story is sweet and relatable. Secondly, I hope it opens minds about what theater can accomplish when we allow it to be told with different voices. And finally, I hope you are blown away by the talent in this cast."

The production will be put on by the nonprofit performing arts group, Stage 1 Theatre. Through the bilingual show, the theater group will feature actors who are deaf, HOH (hard of hearing), CODA (child of deaf adult) and hearing. Actors will be able to perform in both American Sign Language and spoken English.

"My goal is that the audience becomes so immersed in the storytelling that they are no longer thinking about the fact that this is a bilingual production, and rather that they are just in for a fun ride," Pitpitan said.

Pitpitan felt inspired after seeing a production of "Big River" performed by the Deaf West Theatre several years ago. At the show she witnessed for the first time a fully integrated presentation with ASL and spoken English. "I saw that including Deaf actors in a musical was not only possible, but it actually made for spectacular theater," Pitpitan said.

Pitpitan explains finding the specific viewpoint of her show, she felt her vision grow stronger as the



GINO LUCAS

Above: From left, actors Ashley Castellon, Noelle Wilder and Dane Lentz rehearse for the upcoming Stage 1 Theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". Bottom left: Castellon portrays the Narrator in the show. Bottom right: Wilder plays Joseph, whose voice will be spoken by Lentz.

production process went on. "I was compelled to direct this show," she said. "It just made sense to me as the ideal vehicle to present a story in both ASL and spoken English."

Stage 1 Theatre's board president and show producer Lorraine VanRod emphasized the pride the group feels in being able to have a production like this.

"Any bilingual show means you've exponentially expanded your audience. Reaching new patrons is exciting and also essential to maintain the arts," VanRod said. "Especially (for) those who identify as deaf, hard of hearing, or a child of deaf adults."

A two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic allowed the group to consider what kind of theater they wanted to showcase to the community, according to VanRod. During that time, they explored what representation meant to them as a whole.

"I hope our production inspires other arts organizations to provide opportunities for the Deaf, HOH, CODA and ASL community," VanRod said. "I can't wait for these actors to get roles in other shows. I will be the first to buy a ticket"

VanRod and Pitpitan both share

a passion for accessible performing arts.

"One of the things that I love about theater is that it is a place where people come together. We need this now more than ever," VanRod said.

Pitpitan added, "Sometimes I just sit back and watch the actors work in ASL and I am so moved by the beauty of their own choreography."

"In theater, if you give different people the space to bring out the creativity that lives within them, it is one of the most positively affirming experiences and there's nothing quite like it," she said.

Stage 1 Theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" — the musical retelling of the biblical story of Joseph, with lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber — with debut with a preview show next Friday (Aug. 12) followed by opening night on Aug. 13 at 8 p.m.

Performances continue on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Aug. 28 at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton. For tickets and more information, visit firehousearts.org. ■



Livermore wine culture celebrated in new gallery exhibit

Tri-Valley artists share appreciation for local libation in ‘Ferment’

By NICOLE GONZALES

Livermore Valley Arts will be toasting the Tri-Valley’s wine culture and history with work from local artists and creatives. The new exhibit, entitled “Ferment,” at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater will showcase work about fermented and distilled drinks, vineyards and still life.

The exhibit’s opening reception this weekend will be complete with wine, sourdough bread tasting and live music. Residents looking to attend the gallery exhibit can view the work from this week through Oct. 2.

“The ‘Ferment’ art show is a chance to express appreciation for this great wine-producing area,” artist Judy Rice told the Weekly. “I applaud the Bankhead for promoting the creativity of people who are fortunate to live in this beautiful valley.”

Rice creates watercolor paintings and will have her work featured in the gallery alongside several other local artists.

“Exhibits such as ‘Ferment’ give artists a chance to express themselves and share their art with the local community,” Rice said. “Exhibits give me the opportunity to experience the creativity of fellow artists.”

“Ferment” will feature work from artists of all mediums, one of which is photography.

“I think it’s a good opportunity for people who love wine and are excited about wine to learn about the winemaking process,” said Rosa Fierro, whose photography is featured in the exhibit. “It’s a really unique learning opportunity just noticing the beauty of winemaking outside of the actual wine.”

Fierro explained that her photographs come from a process called racking wine in which the wine is taken from a tank to another receptacle — this produces wine lees.

“The wine lees left at the bottom of the tank would always leave different patterns and so I would photograph them,” Fierro said. “They were just really unique and the reflection of the sun or the light on the bottom of the tank left these fiery images.”

In addition to photographing the wine, Fierro owns and runs Rosa Fierro Cellars, a winemaking facility located in the Livermore Valley.

“The community of Livermore Valley is really incredible. As a winemaking community, it’s a very collective culture,” Fierro said. “I’m really looking forward to seeing it and all the different art ways that people document their love

for wine.”

Erika Richert, a Livermore resident of almost 30 years, is a fine-art artist who primarily works in the medium of acrylic painting and will also have work displayed at “Ferment.”

“I’m happy to be a part of anything that Bankhead does and creates,” Richert said. “It’s wonderful to be part of a vibrant art community, which I think Livermore is.”

Richert’s piece at the gallery depicts a man with his cats drinking wine. “His cats are not letting him relax — which is of course why he needs a glass of wine,” she said.

“I like the ambiance of the whole thing,” Richert added. “Bringing a drink into a still painting signals people having a good time relaxing, settling down and soothing themselves.”

She emphasizes that her main field is expressionism, which is what inspires her paintings.

“I always appreciate an opportunity to show at the Bankhead,” photographer Barbara Nichols Reynolds said. “It’s a wonderful place; (it’s) open so often where the public can just walk in and look and I really appreciate that.”

In addition to having work at the Bankhead exhibit, Reynolds is the founder of the Livermore spring art



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Photographer Barbara Nichols Reynolds stands next to her piece being displayed in the “Ferment” gallery exhibit at the Bankhead Theater.

show, “Celebrate Women.”

“I appreciate the interaction between the colorful leaves and the blue purple grapes,” Reynolds said. “What’s really beautiful is that the sun is twinkling off the leaves, and there is even a lot of gold in that picture. The sun gives a lot of beauty to the image.”

Reynolds encourages others to pick up a camera and try photography, and she is grateful for

supportive people around her who did the same for her.

“The most favorite part of the whole thing for me, is simply taking the picture,” Reynolds said. “I enjoy the framing of it as I’m taking it, so that’s important to me.”

The opening reception for “Ferment” will take place this Saturday (Aug. 6) from 1-3:30 p.m. For more information, visit livermorearts.org. ■

Entertaining end to August on tap at Bankhead Theater

Lineup features comedian Rita Rudner, ‘Iolanthe’, ‘Broken Seeds Still Grow’

By JEREMY WALSH

As the page flips to August this week, organizers at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore have their eye on the second half of the month and a trio of performances that seek to entertain and enlighten local audiences.

Comedian Rita Rudner, known for her long-running show based in Las Vegas, will make her return to Livermore on Aug. 20 for an evening performance that is already almost sold out.

“Rudner delivers her stand-up with a wide-eyed sweetness — and in a sequined gown — that belies

the acid observations this award-winning comedian is best known for,” Livermore Valley Arts reps said. “This seasoned comedian knows how to find the humor in the every day and then turn it all on its head.”

One day later, Lamplighters Music Theatre will be back at the Bankhead after a three-year hiatus to perform “Iolanthe” as part of their touring production of the Gilbert & Sullivan’s favorite.

“This iconic songwriting duo’s subversive political satire on how a government should be run is full of comedy with a capital C,” according to LVA officials.

Then, for the final Saturday of the month, San Francisco-based Nava Dance Theatre and Rupy C. Tut will bring their production of “Broken Seeds Still Grow” to Livermore. LVA officials describe the Aug. 27 performance as “a moving, multi-disciplinary dance and visual art production exploring the continuing impact of the 1947 British India Partition.”

“This creative inquiry sources poetry, eyewitness accounts, and current events to understand the current political climate while reflecting on what it means to belong somewhere,” they said. “Partition was one of the most formative events in South Asia’s recent history, creating over 15 million refugees and leaving over one million people dead.”

Rupy C. Tut will also be holding an art exhibition at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery in the Bankhead to accompany the stage performance.

“Broken Seeds Still Grow” is underwritten by LVA’s Kenison Producer’s Fund, which supports “Bankhead Presents” program performances “that are artistically significant and adventurous while allowing ticket costs to remain low,” organizers said.

For tickets and other information, visit livermorearts.org. ■



LVA

Nava Dance Theatre and Rupy C. Tut will present their multi-disciplinary production of “Broken Seeds Still Grow” in Livermore on Aug. 27.



LVA

Comedian Rita Rudner is returning to the Bankhead Theater on Aug. 20.

Young bassoonist seeks to increase instrument's popularity

San Ramon student founds Bassoon Outreach to Support Students website

By JEANITA LYMAN

With the bassoon being one of the lesser known and practiced instruments amongst young band members, most probably aren't aware of what Dougherty Valley High School student Donovan Tong has come to learn is a worldwide issue — a lack of young bassoonists rising to the forefront to replace longtime experts on the instrument.

During the end of fifth grade, a chance interaction first sparked his father's attention to the lack of widespread awareness of the instrument, as well as the young musician's.

"My dad was on a business trip and on his flight back he was seated next to a music teacher. And the music teacher was teaching about these really rare instruments that students these days aren't really exposed to," Tong said.

In particular, these included the bassoon and oboe, two double-reed instruments that differ drastically from smaller wind instruments, producing an entirely different sound and requiring an entirely different technique.

"These two instruments, they're unique in the way that they fall under the family of instrument that have two reeds," Tong said. "These are two pieces of cane that are put together and the vibration is what makes the sound, versus a clarinet or saxophone, which have one piece of cane in the mouthpiece."

Given the skill and physical strength needed for the bassoon, students in school bands usually aren't introduced to it until the sixth

grade. However, Tong said that such introductions don't always happen in the way it did for more popular instruments.

"From my experience, not all students are openly introduced to it," Tong said.

As a result, Tong has immersed himself in a self-directed project since 2019, aimed at collecting tips, techniques and insight from masters on the instrument, as well as widening its appeal to young musicians in middle school. It has culminated in the website bossbassoon.com — the BOSS short for Bassoon Outreach to Support Students.

"With my project I'm hoping to raise awareness and create a well-resourced website for students who may not know about the bassoon or are just starting to get interested," Tong said.

His initial plan in 2019 had been to facilitate a speaker series, in which guest speakers went to schools in person to introduce students to the instrument. Shortly later though, when he found himself in Zoom band practices amid the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Tong realized he would have to recalibrate.

"One of the things I also had during that time was Instagram and YouTube," Tong said. "I've always really enjoyed making YouTube videos, so during that time I created kind of a comedy spinoff called 'Boss Class,' and it was intended to introduce kids to the bassoon."

While internet comments sections can sometimes be brutal for creators of all ages, Tong said it was

a comment on one of his YouTube videos that inspired him to take the project further.

"A young girl in Hong Kong said it was because of the video that she wanted to tell her parents about the bassoon and give the bassoon a try, and it was at that point that I realized oh my gosh, I might be able to make a difference," Tong said.

Tong began slowly reaching out to expert bassoonists for help building a central resource to introduce and educate young musicians about the instrument. He was met with a wave of support — as well as widespread recognition from experts across the globe that more young musicians should be exposed to the instrument.

"I think the issue that I've noticed regarding new bassoonists and kids being introduced seems to be an issue that's pretty common around the world, and I think a lot of famous bassoonists, even though they're constantly playing and doing their careers, they also want to encourage students to learn the bassoon," Tong said.

Although Tong's work has been for a very specific interest and audience, he said that it has also given way to broader interpersonal communication skills and lessons.

"One of the things I've learned is just because you don't hear back immediately doesn't mean they don't want to communicate with you," Tong said. "I've also learned to just sort of put myself in other people's shoes because they have lives too."

For his part, Tong said he'd only



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dougherty Valley High student Donovan Tong (seen at center, flanked by Roydon Ho and Nolan Smith) is focused on generating interest in the bassoon among young musicians.

grown more encouraged and invested in his project as he watched his website garner hundreds of audience members, then a thousand, with a growing subscriber base. A rising senior at Dougherty Valley High currently, he plans to continue seeking

to introduce young musicians to the bassoon as he heads to college.

"I'm just thinking of ways to raise greater awareness for the bassoon, as well as making content that's more appealing to middle schoolers," Tong said. ■

Closing weekend for 'The Comedy of Errors'

By JEREMY WALSH

"The Comedy of Errors" will be onstage in Livermore Valley wine country for one more weekend, with tickets still available for all three shows left in the SPARC Theater production at its new home of Darcie Kent Vineyards.

Directed by Dominique Lozano, the local rendition offers a modern twist to one of William Shakespeare's earliest plays noted for its "slapstick physical comedy, witty word play and lots of mistaken identities," producers said.

"The Comedy of Errors' follows the journey of two sets of twins separated during a shipwreck and the mishaps and hijinks that occur in their quest to reunite," SPARC Theater officials said. "This adaptation is set in Texas, on the border of El Paso



GREGG LE BLANC/CUMULUSLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Performers onstage in SPARC Theater's production of "The Comedy of Errors".

and Ciudad Juarez emphasizing the realities of families separated at the border with the humor and craziness of farce."

The closing weekend shows are set for today, Saturday and Sunday, each beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Darcie Kent Vineyards at 7000 Tesla Road in Livermore. For more information, go to sparctheater.org. ■

Taste Our Terroir pairing winners

Awards include Most Innovative, Best Classic

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association recently announced the winners of this year's Taste Our Terroir Wine and Food Pairing Competition.

The competition returned this year for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and kicked off the four-day food and wine experience that took place earlier this summer, from July 14-17.

The pairing competition was held at Garré Vineyard and Winery. Wineries partnered with chefs from local restaurants to create signature bites to complement their wines.

Three judges — Clay Kallam of Diablo Magazine, Jessica Yadegaren of Bay Area News Group and David Glancy of San Francisco Wine School — tasted 12 wine and food pairings and selected the following winners:

- Best Classic Pairing: Fenestra Winery and Oyo Restaurant

- 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon (Aaron Luna, winemaker).

- Jack Daniel's pepper filet mignon and duck fat braised potato fondant (Maurice Dissels, founder and executive chef).

- Most Innovative Pairing: Occasio Winery and Sabio on Main

- Occasio Sweet Vermouth, Winder and Bow,

Livermore Valley (John Kinney, founder and director of winemaking).

Citrus-poached gulf shrimp with K&J Orchards nectarines, Prosciutto di Parma, Olivina Mission Olive Oil (Francis Hogan, executive chef and partner).

- Judge's Best Pairing: Wood Family Vineyards and First Street Ale House

- 2019 Viva Cabernet Sauvignon (Rhonda Wood, winemaker and owner).

- Creamy polenta with queso fresco, green onion, braised short ribs with Colorado aioli (Savannah Meier, chef).

The People's Choice Awards were given to:

- Best White Wine Pairing: McGrail Vineyards & Winery and BottleTaps

- 2021 Kylie Ryan Rosé (Mark Clarin, winemaker).

- Pork rilette with balsamic glazed strawberries & herbed goat cheese (Patrick Tripp, executive chef).

- Best Red Wine Pairing: The Lineage Wine Collection and Posada Restaurant

- 2018 L'Autre Côte Cabernet Franc (Steven Kent Mirassou, winemaker and owner).

- Braised short ribs with blackberry mole poblano on a bed of black beans with Mexican chorizo, vegetables en escabeche & queso fresco (Eduardo Posada, executive chef and owner). ■

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LETTERS

Safety on our streets

Thank you to Jeremy Walsh for your article entitled “Yet another bike fatality”.

It is important for drivers to understand how important it is to give bicyclists their legal right of way on our streets. There is nothing that will ruin a driver's day more than injuring or possibly killing a bicyclist, possibly a child.

Climate change continues to ravage our earth. Extreme drought which is a large contributor to wildfires and poor air quality is affecting us in Pleasanton here and now. We must limit greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 64% of all greenhouse emissions produced in the city of Pleasanton are from vehicle traffic, we must encourage non-motorized travel. To do that we must make our streets feel safe for bicyclists by improving infrastructure and by drivers giving bicyclists their legal right to use our streets safely.

Some drivers will argue that bicyclists sometimes don't follow the law, but drivers don't always either and they are in a vehicle that can kill.

I personally have been nearly hit several times by impatient drivers while I was bicycling on the streets legally.

Please be patient when you see bicyclists on our streets. They are benefiting you by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, saving the earth for your children and grandchildren and giving you healthier air to breathe today.

—Sharon Piekarski

Century House, smart use of funds ... is it?

The Century House was built in 1870 as a duck-hunting lodge by someone named George Atkinson with no association to the city (founding father, first schoolhouse, etc.) ... it's just old. The repair estimate was \$500,000 to \$3.5 million (per July 2020 article). One year later, the City Council approved \$4.7 million.

A little perspective:

1. The entire city budget is approximately \$137 million.

2. As of June 30, 2020, Pleasanton's pension and other employee liabilities were \$217 million-plus: pension liability, \$175 million; other-pot employee benefits, \$42 million.

3. Aren't there more pressing issues to spend the money on than to repair an old house?

4. Why not sell it, get rid of the repair liability and actually make a profit?

5. With \$4.7 million, you could pay for half of what it cost to build the new fire station on Santa Rita or build a nice mansion from the ground up.

6. I'll bet that not even 100 people in Pleasanton know the background of this building or where it is.

7. Would you donate any of your money to repair it?

8. Is this a “want” or a “need”?

This expenditure is a small example of spending money on a “want” not something the city “needs” to spend money on. I just wish the council acted like it was their own money they were spending. So ... is it really a smart use of your tax money?

—Paul Sullivan

Perspective on letter

Since David Ott's recap of the Fox News headlines has migrated from the Independent to the Weekly, I thought I would add my perspective.

He blames Biden for the price of gas. When the pandemic shutdowns hit, the price of oil went below zero. Producers had to pay people to store it. Thousands of marginal wells were shut down and refineries taken offline. When demand came roaring back and Russian oil was embargoed, the price skyrocketed. Now producers are making record profits while pumping less. Even our “friends” the Saudis won't pump more.

No president can control the worldwide price of oil, but I wonder if Mr. Ott will give Biden credit for the recent drop in gas prices?

Exiting Afghanistan was always going to be chaos. As a long time Navy officer and military pilot, I've seen chaos. The planning and execution was bad but could have been worse. And remember, it was Trump who bargained with the Taliban to set an April exit date, thereby dumping the problem on the next administration.

There is much more to debunk in his letter but remember, those who yell the loudest are not always correct.

—Brian Sanborn

Our democracy is at stake

The Jan. 6 attack on our nation wasn't a random act by a handful of sore losers, but a premeditated and organized insurrection. Now, thanks to the hearings, there's overwhelming evidence that Trump and his allies were at the helm of it.

We heard from former members of the Trump administration and Republican state officials about how Trump illegally pressured the vice president, the Department of Justice, and state legislatures to overturn the election he knew he lost. And when it didn't work, he summoned an armed mob to march on the Capitol Building in a final, violent attempt to stop the peaceful transfer of power.

These insurrectionists haven't gone anywhere. In fact, more than 100 of them have already won their

primaries. It's up to us to do our part and vote to make sure they don't win this fall.

Should these dangerous candidates win their elections, we could have election deniers in key seats of power, like secretary of state and county clerk, ready to overturn whatever election results they don't like.

Our democracy is at stake. If we want to hold onto our freedoms to vote, to have our votes decide elections, and to rely on elections to keep our leaders in check, then we have to cast our ballots during the midterms this year on Nov. 8.

—Eric Nichandros

Fundraising barbecue

Community of Character is fundraising for the Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarships with a “Summer Celebration - BBQ Fundraiser” in the beautiful backyard of retired police captain, Craig Eicher.

The scholarship honors the memory of Juanita Haugen, trustee and president of Pleasanton school boards for 28 years. Juanita had a passion for children and was a leader in the district's character education program and in establishing the

“Community of Character Collaborative”. Juanita died in 2007 due to cancer. The scholarship honors students from Pleasanton high schools who exemplify the character traits of the Community of Character Collaborative through example and service.

Keep the memory of Juanita Haugen alive and help these Pleasanton students fulfill their dreams by purchasing tickets or making a donation to the scholarship fund.

Meet new leaders in the community: James Cooper, CEO/president of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce; Joe Testa, fire chief; and David Swing, Pleasanton police chief.

This is a wonderful opportunity to honor Juanita, support our outstanding Pleasanton students, mingle with old friends, and meet some of the new leaders in our community, as well as enjoy Craig's beautiful backyard where he has been working hard since retirement from the police force.

The event is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20. Tickets available at the chamber website at www.Pleasanton.org, or www.bit.ly/Summer22bbq

Donations to the scholarship fund can be made via www.communityofcharacter.org/scholarships.

—Ken Mano, via Town Square

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

HIGHLIGHTS

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 7 P.M.

- Recommend City Council Approve the Three-Year Agreement for Basketball Officiating Services with Bay Island Officials' Association in an Amount not to Exceed \$316,000
- Recommend Location for Cricket Field Placement at Ken Mercer Sports Park

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

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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Monte Vista alum Starn reflects on winning SF Marathon — in first try

Also: Tri-Valley Babe Ruth 14s headed to World Series

Sometimes you just have to marvel at people like 2016 Monte Vista High School graduate Brooke Starn.

As a Mustang, she was an accomplished student and athlete. On the track Starn set school records in the 1,600 and 3,200 meters that still easily stand today.

In the classroom she excelled as well, getting accepted to Harvard following her graduation from Monte Vista.

Once at Harvard, Starn ran track for three years, all the while taking on the academic rigors and earning a degree from Harvard. After the Ivy League, Starn came back west for post-graduate work at UC Davis and competed on the Aggies' track team as well.

Next up academically, Starn headed back east on July 29 to begin medical school at NYU. But don't for one minute think the running shoes have been put away as the academic side of life continues to get tougher.

Seemingly to make that a point, on July 24 Starn went out and ran in her first marathon, taking on the hilly San Francisco Marathon for her first try at the distance.

She did a little more than just compete — she won the women's race and finished ninth overall, crossing the finish line with a time

of 2 hours, 44 minutes, 38 seconds. That's an average of 6:18 per mile over the 26.2-mile course.

"I was really surprised by the time," Starn said of what she thought as the race ended. "I was happy to have my celebration moment."

Starn's inspiration to take on a marathon was her mother Mandee, who has run 14 marathons and is a running partner for her daughter on some days.

Mandee's first marathon was also the San Francisco Marathon, 30 years earlier.

"My mom has run marathons, so I knew I wanted to do one after college," said the 24-year-old Starn. "I knew medical school was going to be hectic, so I wanted to run one before."

Starn put the San Francisco event on the calendar and then worked back for her training regimen to get ready for the race.

The timeframe was only six weeks but given that she had been training for distance runs for some time, it was that much of a change.

"I still was running 55 miles a week," Starn explained. "The biggest change was my long run. I went to 22 miles instead of 15 miles. I like the feeling of pushing myself."

As the race drew closer, Starn set

some goals and that required developing a strategy.

"I had stalked the results of the race for quite a bit of time," Starn said. "I knew the course was hilly for a marathon, so I set my goals knowing that."

The first goal was to break three hours.

"That was a big barrier," she said. "A really solid time would be 2:55, and an incredible time would be 2:50. I did have some place goals, but I knew if I hit time goals, it would be a top three finish."

Then came race day.

"You never know who is going to show up on race day," Starn said. "It turned out to be a really good field."

Which in turn played right into her strategy.

"I ran the first six miles with the top women and had a chance to talk with them about the course," Starn explained. "My overall plan was to go out conservatively like 6:30-6:35 a mile. Once I got through six miles, then go with what felt favorable."

Things were going well enough that she started thinking about what she might be able to do.

"At the 20th mile I started doing the math where I could finish," Starn said. "With six miles left, I was feeling good and figured out that if I went sub-6 minutes, I could



MANDEE STARN

Monte Vista alum Brooke Starn celebrates after her first-place finish in the women's division of the San Francisco Marathon.

get under the time I wanted to run."

By that point she had distanced herself from the other contending women.

"I was running with some of the men," Starn said. "But the last three or so miles I had no one to run with."

It didn't matter as Starn crossed the line over four minutes ahead of the second-place woman, and like mentioned above, ninth overall in the race.

So, what's next?

"I plan to run a half-marathon in the fall," Starn said. "The next couple of years I still want to compete. (Running) helps with school — it's a release for me."

And future marathons? After going to college in the Boston area and now medical school in New York, there appears to be a logical

choice of a couple races.

"I want to run the New York and Boston marathons," Starn said. "That's a long-term goal. My mom ran Boston three times."

Tri-Valley Babe Ruth headed to World Series

The Tri-Valley Babe Ruth 14 team took the Pacific Southwest Regionals with a 6-5 win over the team from Hawaii in the finals.

Next up for the local team is a date in the Babe Ruth 14 World Series, Aug. 11-21, in Williston, N.D. Look for a preview of the team next week in this space! ■

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.

Registration open for Hope 100 Golf Marathon

Annual daylong fundraiser supports hospice nonprofit

By JEREMY WALSH

The Hope 100 Golf Marathon is returning to Castlewood Country Club's Valley Course next month, and registration is underway for participants and sponsors for the annual endurance event that raises vital money for local nonprofit Hope Hospice.

The Sept. 19 marathon will see golfers play 100 holes in the same day, a format designed as a strenuous experience to symbolize the challenges patients and families face at the end of life.

Proceeds will support Hope Hospice's patient-care services and grief support center, as well as a range of free educational programs for the local public including grief support services, dementia-care education and family caregiver resources,

according to organizers.

"The 2021 event brought in \$155,000, which broke a fundraising record," said Marc Rovetti, Hope's director of philanthropy and event chairperson.

"Although the Hope 100 is designed to be a fun, entertaining experience for the participants, the reason we gather is to raise critical support for our programs. Our veteran players have always acknowledged that mission and have been very generous. We can't express enough gratitude for their support," he added.

The Hope 100 Golf Marathon was originally created in 2015 in honor of former Castlewood golf professional Piper Wagner, who died from cancer and received end-of-life care from Hope Hospice. The

event also now memorializes the late Steve Thompson, an original Hope 100 participant, Bay Area native and co-founder of Jerry Thompson and Sons Painting.

An exclusive charity fundraiser, Hope 100 is accepting registrants with only 36 player spots available for a minimum donation of \$2,500 each. Some pay their own registration while others fundraise among friends, family and employers to cover the cost. Players can attempt the 100 holes on their own or split the challenge among friends.

A quick pace of play is emphasized, with the goal of completing 18 holes every two hours. Although score is not the primary focus, prizes will be awarded related to scores.

Again this year FH Dailey



HOPE HOSPICE

These were the participants in the 2021 Hope 100 Golf Marathon. Registration is underway for this year's event.

Chevrolet will sponsor a hole-in-one competition that offers a prize of \$75,000 to be used toward the winner's choice of vehicle from the

dealership in San Leandro.

For more about this year's event, visit Hope100GolfMarathon.com or call Rovetti at 925-829-8770. ■

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Entertainment

FIRST WEEKEND ON MAIN Every first weekend of the month, come downtown and enjoy street closures for roaming historical downtown Pleasanton events and outdoor dining. Aug. 5-7. on Main Street.

CITY CENTER UNPLUGGED

Celebrate summer with City Center Unplugged, a Friday evening outdoor music series featuring an array of local bands. Grab an outside table, enjoy a leisurely dinner and catch some of the tunes that will be filling Alexander Square. 6-8 p.m.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE VINEYARD

Shakespeare in the Vineyard is back and bigger than ever with SPARC Theater. The Comedy of Errors, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 5-7. Visit sparctheater.org/shakespeareinthevineyard.

TUESDAY TUNES IN LIVERMORE

Enjoy Tuesday tunes every night through August 16. Shea Homes Stage, Livermore Plaza, 2400 First St. 6:45 p.m.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING

TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT This is a bilingual production of the beloved classic family musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice with all performances in American Sign Language and Spoken English and a talented cast of deaf, HOH (hard of hearing), ASL fluent and hearing actors. Tickets \$48. Aug. 13-14; 19-21; 26-28. Visit firehousearts.org.

GRAN JARIPEO Y BAILE Calibre 50, Banda Carnaval, Jose Manuel Figueroa y Cuarto de Milla. Toros de Rancho el Aguaje. 12-8 p.m., Aug. 14 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Tickets \$15-\$55. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

NEIL SIMON'S JAKE'S WOMEN

Neil Simon's Jake's Women is the story of a New York writer and his relationships with the women in his life, whether real, remembered, or imaginary. Aug. 19-21. Tickets \$20. Masks are required Visit livermorearts.org. Bothwell Arts Center.

RITA RUDNER AT THE BANKHEAD A house-filling favorite in Las Vegas as well as Livermore, Rudner delivers her stand-up with a wide-eyed sweetness that belies the acid observations this award-winning comedian is best known for. 8 p.m., Aug. 20. Tickets \$20-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

SUPER TOY & COMIC BOOK

SHOW This event will have 150 tables of vintage to modern toys, comics and collectibles, video game memorabilia and much more. Aug. 20 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

IOLANTHE AT THE BANKHEAD

Gilbert & Sullivan's subversive political satire on how a government should be run

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Pick up a Penny

Penny is a friendly and easygoing, 11-pound miniature Pinscher mix who has been a low-maintenance guest at her foster home. She is affectionate and loves to cuddle. This 5-year-old girl loves sunbathing, exploring the backyard and looks forward to her daily walks. Penny knows some basic commands, listens well, and she is motivated by food that helps with training. She is also crate- and house-trained, spayed, current on vaccines and microchipped. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue via tvar.org.

features the tour de force Nightmare Song and a band of mischievous fairies doing battle with a dim-witted Parliament. 2 p.m., Aug. 21. Tickets \$31-\$78. Visit livermorearts.org.

MUSIC IN THE ORCHARD The popular Music in the Orchard concert series in its 8th year at the Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort and Spa. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and relax under the olive trees and enjoy talented musicians while supporting local students. July 28. Visit purpleorchid.com/music-in-the-orchard.

BROKEN SEEDS STILL GROW This multi-disciplinary dance and visual art production explores the continuing impact of the 1947 British India Partition. 3 p.m., Aug. 27. Tickets \$10-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org. Bankhead Theater.

OPERA IN THE VINEYARD Retzlaff welcomes visitors to its outdoor venue to enjoy arias from classic operas in an informal setting. The August event features arias and ensembles from Opera and Broadway. 5-8 p.m., Aug. 28. Visit livermorevalleyopera.com.

GUITARS NOT GUNS CHILDREN'S MUSIC CHARITY EVENT Join the Guitars Not Guns benefit fundraiser for an evening of comedy, live music, dancing and raffle prizes. All proceeds benefit the Contra Costa County Chapter of Guitars Not Guns. Event features Emcee Bernie the Comedian, The Breedloves and the 925 Band. 7-10:30 p.m., Aug. 31. Tickets \$15-\$40. Visit tommyts.com.

Exhibits

PICTURE THIS - A PUBLIC ART EXHIBIT Picture This is a temporary public art exhibit that will be featured in parks and picturesque areas throughout the Tri-Valley this summer. The town of Danville, city of Dublin, city of Livermore, city of Pleasanton and city of San Ramon have partnered together to bring this new exhibit to life. The frames will be on display from now to Sept. 30.

ROAD TRIP EXHIBIT AT THE HARRINGTON GALLERY This show is a collection of different media and varying interpretations of what a road trip might inspire. Most artworks are accompanied by poems complimenting the visual piece and were written by The Monday Night Poets, a local writers group. Through Aug. 13. Firehouse Arts Center.

PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE

The Firehouse Arts Center is hosting local award winning photographer, Vanessa Thomas, as its newest featured solo exhibition artist. Visitors will be able to view the up-close intricacies of nature and floral scenes from the images. On display through Sept. 3.

ART RECEPTION: FERMENT

The UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery's New Exhibition: Ferment celebrates the beauty of vines, hops and fermented drinks. Free and open to the public, Thursdays-Sundays, 1-5 p.m., Now through Oct. 2. Bankhead Theater Lobby.

THE HISTORY AND STORY OF MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD

This Zoom presentation, presented by the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, will cover the 142 years of Mare Island operations since its establishment as the first Naval Base on the Pacific Coast in 1854. Learn about the base's importance to the Bay Area, the United States and the world. 11:30 a.m., Aug. 18. Visit museumsrv.org.

Talks

CRITTERS IN YOUR BACKYARD

Learn about what kind of critters you can find at home, from birds to insects and the most common animals that call a backyard home. 2 p.m., Aug. 7. Sycamore Grove Park. RSVP to dsousa@larpd.org or call 925-960-2400.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Glen Holstein, PhD presents, "The Geography of American Genealogy", at the next Livermore-

See **CALENDAR** on Page 18

Employment

Director, Personalization and Traffic Innovation

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Director, Personalization and Traffic Innovation (IT digital marketing) 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: H. Macasieb.

Director Technology - eCom Fulfillment

Safeway Inc. is hiring Director Technology - eCom Fulfillment in Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. Subj. to bckgrnd check. E.O.E. Email resume to TA.Perm.Project@albertsons.com. Attn: M. Ferreira

Manager, Software Development Engineering

Manager, Software Development Engineering, Workday, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Write code, develop automated unit tests and write automated end to end tests. To apply, please mail resume to ATTN: Jessica Thurston, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Rd, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Please refer to Job # 20637.1694.

Engineer II, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Engineer II, Software in Pleasanton, CA to utilize modern web front-end and open-source technologies to design, develop, and unit test TPO Connect application. 100% telecommuting permitted within the U.S. Apply at <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> Ref: 94746.

Sr. Engineer, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seek Sr. Engineer, Software in Pleasanton, CA to analyze needs & reqs of existing & proposed systems & dev tech specs. Telecommuting permitted. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com Ref: 88497.

Sr. Engineer, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology Inc. seeks Sr. Engineer, Software in Pleasanton, CA to analyze needs & requirements of systems. Telecommuting perm. w/i US. Apply at www.jobpostingtoday.com Ref: 84303.

Multiple Positions

Workday Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA: Software Engineer / Software Development Engineer (SESDE-001/002-J01-10) - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp Incl: Object-oriented design & development; Algorithms & data structures; programming language such as Java, C# or C++; & Database & querying languages such as SQL. Software Application Engineer (SAE-003/004-J01-10) - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp Incl: Object-oriented design and development in an object-oriented language such as Java, C# or other object-oriented language; designing or developing business applications using system visualization tools such as UML class diagrams or other related software or technology; & XML & integration concepts. Submit resume by mail to: Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 17

Amador Genealogical Society meeting. Many of our ancestors were part of groups that left homelands at particular times and moved together to specific regions in America. 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 8. Visit l-ags.org.

FAMILY CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES "Signs of Dementia Versus Normal Aging" is the webinar topic of the next Family Caregiver Education Series through Hope Hospice. 10-11:30 a.m., Aug. 11. Visit hopehospice.com.

CAMPFIRE SCARY STORIES FOR TEENS The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the Livermore Public Library presents Campfire Scary Stories for teens at Sycamore Grove Park. Open to students going into grades 6-12, the program will take place at the Sycamore Grove Reservable Picnic Area. 8-9 p.m., Aug. 12. Visit library.livermoreca.gov.

IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK Pleasanton's history is more than dates and historical time periods, it's about the everyday people that helped build this town. On this walking tour with Museum on Main, explore the many beautiful historic homes along St. Mary Street, Division Street and Rose Avenue. 10 a.m., Aug. 13.

CONGREGATION BETH EMEK OPEN HOUSE Learn about worship opportunities, our community, educational programs for all ages and tour the building, sanctuary and classrooms. 10 a.m., Aug. 14, 3400 Nevada Ct. Contact membership@bethemek.org.

ALAN HU FOUNDATION Dr. Steven C. Hayes, Foundation Professor of Psychology presents a mental

health webinar sponsored by the Alan Hu Foundation titled "How Change Happens: Why Improvement in Our Mental Health Will Require Going Beyond Mental Illness". This free webinar will include 15 minutes for questions and answers. RSVP by Aug. 16. Visit alanhufoundation.org.

Farmers' Markets

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 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 Street and L Street.

DUBLIN THURSDAY NIGHT FARMERS' MARKET 4-8 p.m. through September. Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Pkwy.

Family

FIRST WEEKEND ON MAIN Every first weekend of the month enjoy street closures for roaming historical downtown Pleasanton events and outdoor dining. Aug. 5-7.

FAMILY DAYS AT MUSEUM ON MAIN Enjoy an afternoon playing with all types of toys and games

including old time wooden toys, optical illusion toys, carnival games and retro toys. Participants will be able to make some toys to take home. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Aug. 6.

MUSEUM ON MAIN'S DINOSAUR HUNT Museum on Main invites preschoolers (ages 2-5) and their families to Dinosaur Hunt, a celebration of all things prehistoric. Storytime begins at 10 a.m. followed by a hunt for dinosaur eggs, making a dinosaur habitat and digging for salt dough dinosaur bones to take home. Supplies for the first 40 children. Aug. 10.

Fundraisers

5K FOR A CAUSE This fun run created by Prodigy Fitness, Girls Soccer Worldwide and Fleet Feet, supports a great cause, to empower girls in sports. Registration from this event will benefit local programs supported by Girls Soccer Worldwide. Aug. 7. Ken Mercer Park. Visit runsignup.com/Race/CA/Pleasanton/PleasantonCommunity5k.

TRI-VALLEY REACH FUNDRAISER Join for an evening of giving while enjoying the sunset amidst the scenic vistas of Livermore's wine country. Tri-Valley REACH provides resources, education, activities, community participation and housing opportunities that enable adults with developmental disabilities. 6-8:30 p.m., Aug. 11. Visit trivalleyreach.org/events.

STUFF THE CRUISER Livermore Police Department will be holding its annual Stuff the Cruiser where cruisers will be parked in front of Big Lots, CVS (First St.),

Office Max and Walmart where officers and volunteers will collect community donated school supplies (backpacks, folders, pencils, pens, paper, etc.) to give out to students in need. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Aug. 13 and 14.

SUMMER CELEBRATION BBQ FOR JUANITA HAUGEN SCHOLARSHIPS Community of Character is fundraising for the Juanita Haugen Scholarships with a Summer Celebration-BBQ to help Pleasanton students fulfill their dreams. Purchase tickets or make a donation to the Scholarship Fund. Event 6 p.m., Aug. 20. Tickets \$75. Visit pleasanton.org.

GOODNESS VILLAGE FUNDRAISER Goodness Village exists to bring family to those in need of a home. The second annual Goodness Village spaghetti fundraiser is 5-8 p.m., Aug. 28. Tickets \$35.00. Visit gvlivermore.org.

Support

SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOP FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS NAMI Tri-Valley will co-sponsor with NAMI Alameda County and Axis Community Health a 1-day informative educational Suicide Prevention Workshop for family caregivers. This virtual workshop is at no cost, but registration is required. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 7. Visit nami-trivalley.org.

VA PALO ALTO MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH Pleasanton Library will host the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach team to facilitate examinations, consultations and referrals for enrolled veterans. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 22. 400 Old Bernal Ave.

FREE HOT MEALS Prepared by Open Heart Kitchen. Monday-Friday, 1-3 p.m. 4444 East Ave, Livermore. Dine-in or take-out. Visit openheartkitchen.org.

GOODNESS VILLAGE NEEDS DRIVERS Goodness Village in Livermore, a Tiny Home Community that provides affordable and permanent housing options for people experiencing chronic homelessness, is looking for drivers to get residents to appointments. Visit gvlivermore.org.

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

Government

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Aug. 8. For more information, visit cityoflivermore.net.

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL The Pleasanton City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of the month, currently held virtually. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Aug. 16. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (June 6-10)

Total sales reported: 16
Lowest sale reported: \$570,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,150,000
Average sales reported: \$1,875,000

Livermore (June 6-10)

Total sales reported: 28
Lowest sale reported: \$627,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,000,000
Average sales reported: \$1,152,500

Dublin (June 6-10)

Total sales reported: 15
Lowest sale reported: \$860,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,125,000
Average sales reported: \$1,225,000

Sunol (June 6-10)

Total sales reported: 1
Lowest sale reported: \$850,000
Highest sale reported: \$850,000
Average sales reported: \$850,000

San Ramon

(June 27-July 1)
Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$537,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,525,000
Average sales reported: \$1,518,750

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during June 6-10 for Pleasanton, Sunol, Livermore and Dublin, and June 27 to July 1 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 5812 Corte Mente** Alderete Trust to P. & H. Murarka for \$2,700,000
- 1387 Greenwood Road** Green Living Trust to C. & C. Liu for \$2,000,000
- 7437 Highland Oaks Drive** Doe Family Trust to M. & J. Kim for \$1,750,000
- 2911 Lethbridge Court** R. Rubin to D. & S. Goel for \$1,750,000
- 1749 Lynn Court** Krishna Family Trust to Herson Family 2021 Trust for \$3,150,000
- 1536 Maple Leaf Drive** Bbys Iii LLC to P. & V. Sharma for \$2,850,000
- 3248 Marilyn Court** Koempel Family Trust to M. Parziale for \$1,950,000
- 5068 Monaco Drive** Healy Family Trust to M. & A. Banerjee for \$2,400,000
- 550 Montori Court** C. Rydquist to C. Wang for \$2,930,000
- 1990 Nicosia Court** J. Olesh to E. & S. Kallerackal for \$3,150,000
- 1344 Orloff Drive** Eilbert Living Trust to M. & S. Tavares for \$1,575,000
- 607 Palomino Drive #D** C. Das to L. Carson for \$775,000
- 62 Peters Avenue #4** Kochan Family Trust to K. & R. Garibaldi for \$570,000
- 4115 School Street** Frevola Family Trust to R. & A. Ulloa for \$1,575,000
- 2231 Tanager Drive** Hanson Trust to P. & C. Chheda for \$1,800,000
- 211 Tomas Way** L. Raja to R. & N. Parashar for \$1,385,000

See SALES on Page 19

TAKE US ALONG



Visiting the temple: Emily, Lance and Julia Smith visiting the Byodo-In Temple on Oahu in Hawaii on May 14. Located in the Valley of the Temples Memorial Park, it is a replica of a historic Japanese Buddhist temple featuring manicured grounds and meditation sites.

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

SALES

Continued from Page 18

Sunol

2959 Singalong Way M. Brown to C. & J. Mckaskey for \$850,000

Livermore

968 Acacia Way A. Prandini to C. & J. Pavon for \$950,000

804 Almaden Court K. Pakkirisamy to A. & P. Bagavathiraj for \$995,000

4282 Amherst Way Sylvester Trust to Rescue Home Now LLC for \$815,000

1092 Andalucia Street S. & G. Mcgee to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$1,110,500

5987 Arlene Way D. & S. Stout to N. & A. Sarup for \$1,500,000

734 Avalon Way S. Rangappan to Opendoor Property Trust for \$1,375,500

1161 Butte Court Cornerstone Cap Invs LLC to D. & S. Kreiss for \$1,240,000

894 Carmel Avenue Isely Living Trust to S. & A. Sage for \$1,115,000

2202 Chateau Way J. & T. Byrom to Scoppettone Living Trust for \$1,900,000

6790 Edgewater Lane T. & J. Stewart to K. & N. Bhatt for \$1,350,000

6324 El Capitan Court Olsen Living Trust to J. & S. Nomany for \$1,574,000

1145 El Dorado Drive Valley Home Offers LLC to K. & P. Dewan for \$1,250,000

1823 El Padro Drive Redfinnow Borrower LLC to D. & S. Savalge for \$1,190,000

1270 Gusty Loop #5 A. Go to A. & A. Vella for \$990,000

587 South H Street Trotter Trust to Marcel Trust for \$2,000,000

1317 Hibiscus Way Roberts Trust to P. Fuentes for \$790,000

1171 Hillcrest Court L. & E. Connors to A. & S. Sarkar for \$1,325,000

827 Jefferson Avenue Phelps Family Trust to F. & V. Attri for \$1,000,000

874 Lambaren Avenue D. Thomas to R. & M. Jimeno for \$1,020,000

1322 Le Havre Court M. Sun to S. & L. Mohammed for \$1,535,000

2466 Marina Avenue Romano Family Trust to M. & N. Depratti for \$1,950,000

1536 Murdell Lane M. Valdivia to D. & J. Vadhvani for \$1,200,000

4588 Phyllis Court I. & K. Mizuno to W. & H. Tong for \$1,100,000

132 Selby Lane #9 M. & J. Boice to G. & L. Sanchez for \$825,000

1368 Spring Valley Common R. & A. Green to S. & R. Villegas for \$627,000

1652 Spruce Street S. Zhang to Y. & Y. Oh for \$960,000

1132 Tulane Court H. & P. Zischka to M. Gresshoff for \$1,000,000

1080 Via Madrid S. & N. Glass to K. & B. Haley for \$1,250,000

Dublin

7632 Arbor Creek Circle Brown Family Trust to N. & M. Tsang for \$900,000

3558 Capoterra Way #3 F. & K. Salam to X. Zhouan for \$1,250,000

2103 Carbondale Circle Y. Cheung to A. & J. Lau for \$2,000,000

3701 Central Parkway #16 S. & L. Tirona to S. & Q. Weng for \$1,300,000

3782 Dunmore Lane E. Ng to P. Wu for \$1,100,000

10616 Eastertown Lane #181 S. & M. Ortiz to G. & J. Loero for \$905,000

5735 El Dorado Lane X. Liu to N. & A. Patel for \$1,160,000

11610 Estrella Court K. & J. Crump to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$1,686,000

7711 Firebrand Drive P. & K. Sharma to I. & H. Nanda for \$1,385,000



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

7605 Millbrook Avenue Hiner Family Trust to Zen Home Offer LLC for \$983,000

3275 Monaghan Street A. & J. Lau to J. & M. Eitel for \$860,000

6986 Stags Leap Lane P. & A. Kothari to Y. & M. Jin for \$1,260,000

6868 Syrah Drive R. Scripps to S. & S. Nimal for \$2,125,000

6531 Tralee Village Drive Dhanani-Patel Living Trust to R. & S. Kulkarni for \$1,225,000

11428 Winding Trail Lane Widmont Family Trust to K. & V. Vaddey for \$1,214,000

San Ramon

9666 Alcosta Boulevard Loesch Family Trust to A. & A. Roy for \$2,050,000

1234 Amaryllis Circle S. Yun to Opendoor Property Trust I for \$1,427,000

521 Bagado Court Leach Family Trust to S. & T. Zamaroni for \$1,908,000

470 Bollinger Canyon Lane #380 D. & M. Arquines to F. & J. Javier for \$537,000

9821 Broadmoor Drive R. & R. Roda to C. & A. Cornejo for \$1,200,000

2060 Canyon Crest Avenue K. & A. Jarvis to N. & R. Prescott for \$2,310,000

2020 Canyon Woods Drive #F Ozment Family Trust to Bonstead Family Trust for \$860,000

117 Coralflower Lane Richards Family Trust to L. & N. Govi for \$1,120,000

2849 Fountainhead Drive R. & J. Janovetz to T. & M. Mccoy for \$670,000

522 La Copita Court C. Putman to A. Pandya for \$680,000

3046 Lakemont Drive #3 J. Pearce to M. Wong for \$875,000

2444 Millstream Lane R. Gundluru to J. & Y. Liu for \$1,165,000

5200 Portillo Valley Mcsolow Family Trust to B. & S. Moolya for \$2,170,000

405 San Roberto Place D. & E. Bay to M. & S. Shah for \$2,351,000

Source: California REsource

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SOLD | \$3,100,000

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REPRESENTING BUYERS

MARKET REPORT | SEPARATE FACT FROM FICTION

If you're following the news, chances are you've seen or heard some headlines about the housing market that don't give the full picture. The real estate market is shifting, and when that happens, it can be hard to separate fact from fiction.

Call us today with any questions regarding the market, we are here to help you get the facts!

Myth 1: The Housing Market Is in a Correction

That's not the case. Here's why. According to Forbes:

"A correction is a sustained decline in the value of a market index or the price of an individual asset. A correction is generally agreed to be a 10% to 20% drop in value from a recent peak."

Home prices are still appreciating, and experts project that will continue, just at a slower pace. That means the housing market isn't in a correction because prices aren't falling. It's just moderating compared to the last two years, which were record-breaking in nearly every way.

Myth 2: The Housing Market Is Going To Crash

Some headlines are generating worry that the housing market is a bubble ready to burst. But experts say today is nothing like 2008. One of the reasons why is because lending standards are very different today. Logan Mohtashami, Lead Analyst for HousingWire, explains:

"As recession talk becomes more prevalent, some people are concerned that mortgage credit lending will get much tighter. This typically happens in a recession, however, the notion that credit lending in America will collapse as it did from 2005 to 2008 couldn't be more incorrect, as we haven't had a credit boom in the period between 2008-2022."

During the last housing bubble, it was much easier to get a mortgage than it is today. Since then, lending standards have tightened significantly, and purchasers who acquired a mortgage over the last decade are much more qualified than they were in the years leading up to the crash.

*Data Provided By KCM

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SOON

891 Dolores Avenue, San Leandro
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LISTED AT \$989,000



NEW OPEN
SAT/SUN
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2076 Foxswallow Road, Pleasanton
6bd/4ba, 2,931+/-sq.ft, 7,601+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,989,000



OPEN
SAT/SUN

7786 Bloomfield Terrace, Dublin
5bd/4.5ba, 3,788+/-sq.ft, 8,303+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$2,399,000



ACTIVE

2088 Crestline Road, Pleasanton
4bd/2.5ba, 2,047+/- sq.ft, 6,609+/- sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,689,000



ACTIVE

2756 Hartley Gate Court, Pleasanton
3bd/2ba, 1,445+/- sq.ft, 8,463+/- sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,525,888



ACTIVE

772 Saint John Circle, Pleasanton
4bd/3ba, 2,159+/- sq.ft, 4,512+/- sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,739,000



ACTIVE

2735 Huff Drive, Pleasanton
5bd/3ba, 2,913+/- sq.ft, 5,263+/- sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,950,000



OPEN
SAT 1-4PM

1435 Laguna Street, Livermore
4bd/3ba, 1,999+/-sq.ft, 6,000+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,395,000



OPEN
SAT/SUN
1-4PM

1950 Neptune Road, Livermore
5bd/2ba, 2,300+/-sq.ft, 11,072+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,799,000



OPEN
SAT/SUN
1-4PM

35485 Blackburn Drive, Newark
4bd/3ba, 1,866+/-sq.ft, 8,800+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$1,499,000



OPEN
SAT/SUN
1-4PM

347 Warwick Avenue, San Leandro
3bd/1ba, 1,290+/-sq.ft, 10,000+/-sq.ft lot
LISTED AT \$998,888



OPEN SUN
1-4PM

814 Saddleback Circle, Livermore
3bd/2.5ba, 1,683+/-sq.ft, 6,408+/-sq.ft lot
CALL FOR SPECIAL OPTIONS



Tim is a pro. We reached out to Tim as he was highly recommended by others in the neighborhood to sell our home. His exceptional knowledge of the market and our neighborhood allowed us to sell our home off market at a fair price. His coaching and attention to detail are outstanding.

– Dean Ellingsen, Pleasanton

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



PENDING

2372 Bay Meadows Circle, Pleasanton
 3bd/2ba, 1,421+/- sq.ft, 3,812+/- sq.ft lot
 LISTED AT \$1,249,000



PENDING

2333 Woodthrush Way, Pleasanton
 5bd/3ba, 3,142+/- sq.ft, 11,989+/- sq.ft lot
 LISTED AT \$2,150,000



PENDING

11500 Silvergate Drive, Dublin
 4bd/4ba, 2,380+/-sq.ft, 8,668+/-sq.ft
 LISTED AT \$1,879,000



SOLD

4755 Sutter Gate Avenue, Pleasanton
 3bd/2ba, 1,445+/- sq.ft, 7,668+/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$1,425,000



SOLD

4508 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton
 3bd/2ba, 1,813+/- sq.ft, 7,987+/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$1,499,000



SOLD
 \$250K OVER
 ASKING

5979 Via Del Cielo, Pleasanton
 5bd/2.5ba, 3,518+/- sq.ft, 11,017+/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$2,800,000



SOLD \$116K
 OVER ASKING

337 Trenton Circle, Pleasanton
 4bd/2.5ba, 1,620+/- sq.ft, 3,600+/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$1,615,000



SOLD

789 Bonita Avenue, Pleasanton
 4bd/2.5ba, 2,194+/- sq.ft, 7,242+/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$1,780,000



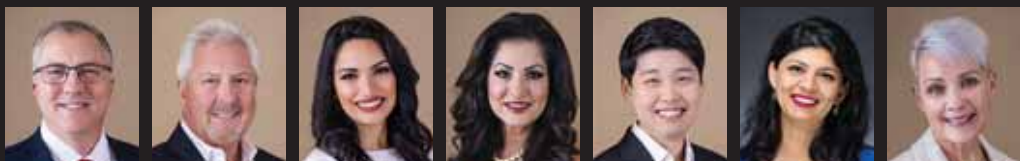
SOLD \$131K
 OVER ASKING

5812 Corte Mente, Pleasanton
 5bd/2.5ba, 2,853+/- sq.ft, 13,150 +/- sq.ft lot
 SOLD FOR \$2,700,000



Tim McGuire is very professional and yet friendly and down to earth. He's NOT some over the top real estate agent. He was referred to us by some friends in 2013 and have since used him and his team to buy & sell four different homes. I really trust his knowledge of houses and neighborhoods, he even talked me out of a house and for good reason. He really has his clients best interest at heart. I would definitely recommend him as well as use him again.

- Danielle Rosic, Pleasanton



Tim McGuire Broker DRE 01349446
 Mark James Realtor® DRE 00697341
 Eva Tia Realtor® DRE 02072764
 Lori Olson Realtor® DRE 02004247
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PENDING
Listed at \$3,395,000

3422 Torlano Place, Ruby Hill



PENDING
Listed at \$1,850,000

3665 Huff Court, Pleasanton



PENDING
Listed at \$985,000

1313 San Lucas Drive, Pittsburg



PENDING
Representing Buyers

2103 Presidio Court, Danville



PENDING
Representing Buyers

4282 Nottingham Drive, Danville



JUST SOLD
Sold for \$1,740,000

4515 Gatetree Circle, Pleasanton



JUST SOLD
Sold for \$1,620,000

3607 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton



JUST SOLD
Sold for \$2,400,000

690 Marsala Court, Pleasanton



JUST SOLD
Sold for \$1,335,000

5980 Corte Cerritos, Pleasanton



JUST SOLD
Sold for \$2,100,000

1144 Mataro Court, Pleasanton



COMING SOON
Listed at \$2,495,000

579 Trebbiano Place, Ruby Hill



COMING SOON
Listed at \$2,795,000

6900 Riddell Street, Pleasanton



COMING SOON
Listed at \$2,589,000

6625 Amber Lane, Pleasanton



COMING SOON
Listed at \$1,449,000

2631 Curry Street, Pleasanton



FOR SALE
Listed at \$6,500,000

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



FOR SALE
Listed at \$2,089,000

409 Neal Street, Pleasanton
3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,262 Square Feet



FOR SALE
Listed at \$2,149,000

6981 Corte Antonio, Pleasanton
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,336 Square Feet



FOR SALE
Listed at \$2,495,000

921 Trebbiano Court, Danville
5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 3,668 Square Feet



FOR SALE
Listed at \$1,369,000

125 Sylvania Circle, Pleasanton
3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,412 Square Feet



FOR SALE
Listed at \$2,295,000

1147 Mataro Court, Pleasanton
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,401 Square Feet



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