

Pleasanton Weekly

Tri-Valley
Turkey Burn

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Holiday Fund now underway

*Annual giving campaign will benefit
eight Tri-Valley nonprofits*

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AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Influencing elections

Taking a close look at San Ramon's 2022 candidate campaign finance filings set off alarm bells for me. It appears special interests and outside money are creeping in to influence local elections while drowning out the voice of the residents.

Sadly, this will probably be the last election in the city in which candidates will run without accepting money from special interest groups like developers, unions, political organizations and the like.

Big money from organizations with deep pockets and independent expenditures (IEs) from groups with an agenda make a difference in elections. This is well known and widely practiced.

Large contributions from outside groups have been happening at the county level for a while.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been funneled into Livermore elections for years.

But this is the first time, at least in recent memory, San Ramon candidates have received so much outside, special interest money. This and party affiliation seems to have contributed to the outcome in at least one, possibly two, races.

Around 85% of the roughly \$156,560 total raised by all candidates (including loans and independent expenditures) came from special interest groups and organizations and individuals outside of the city.

Take, for example, San Ramon's District 4 race between parks commissioner Heidi Kenniston-Lee and Dublin San Ramon Services District Director Marisol Rubio.

Rubio reported contributions of about \$25,200, with only \$200 contributed by a San Ramon resident (who doesn't live in District 4). About \$20,350 was contributed by individuals outside of the city, from special interest groups such as the Sheet Metal Workers, Plumbers and Teamsters unions and the San Ramon Valley Democratic Club. She also received an IE from the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County for "member communication," which means she also got the added benefit of party affiliation (even though a council race is non-partisan) and their mailing list.

Kenniston-Lee raised \$5,880, primarily from residents. She received no money from special interest groups and no independent expenditures.

As of Wednesday, Rubio was leading with 62.91% of the ballot count compared with Kenniston-Lee's 37.02%. Granted, there are still more

than 110,000 countywide votes to count, but that margin is probably too wide to traverse for Kenniston-Lee.

The largest amount contributed to any San Ramon campaign was an IE supporting incumbent Mayor Dave Hudson totaling \$60,000 from a PAC, the "Committee for Jobs," with money from Chevron, Phillips 66 and Marathon Oil, among others.

An independent expenditure is, basically, money spent on communication in support or opposition of a candidate without the approval of the candidate. In fact, candidates by law cannot be involved in any way with an independent expenditure. Receiving IEs shouldn't reflect poorly on a candidate because they have no control over them.

The fact remains, though, IEs are made by organizations and individuals usually outside of a community in an attempt to influence elections.

(This is total speculation: Maybe the IE came in from oil producers because, as mayor, Hudson is on the Board of Directors at Bay Area Air Quality Management District.)

As of Wednesday, Hudson was at 50.26% of the vote for reelection, followed by outgoing Councilmember Sabina Zafar, who raised a little over \$35,000, with 27.06% and challenger Dinesh Govindarao, who raised about \$8,100, at 22.63%

The next largest category to contribute to San Ramon candidate campaigns were the special interest groups, which raised approximately \$52,250. This is more than all the individual contributions by residents and outsiders combined.

In addition to Kenniston-Lee, District 2 candidate Mark Armstrong, who was appointed to the City Council when Hudson was elected mayor in 2020, did not receive contributions from special interest groups or IEs. He raised \$8,480, and his opponent, Sara Lashanlo, raised slightly more, about \$10,100.

Armstrong (with name recognition) secured a comfortable victory in his first campaign for election with 59.74% of the vote as of the latest count. Lashanlo was at 40.24%.

It is unfortunate grassroots support from residents does not overcome the name recognition that money and party affiliation can buy. (Not to mention how sad it is that some people vote on name recognition and party affiliation.)

That's not to say Rubio won't serve San Ramon well. I'm confident she will. I'm just bothered that outside groups, money and politics had such an obvious impact on a local, supposedly non-partisan election. ■

About the Cover

Today marks the beginning of the 2022-23 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXIII, Number 43

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Wishing you a
Happy Thanksgiving
from Elation Real Estate

**Don't miss our latest
November East Bay Market
Review and Update!**



Market Update

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What are your plans for Thanksgiving this year?



Julio Flores
Auditor

My mom is coming over and we'll be making tamales. A close cousin is also coming up from L.A. We'll have a great time talking about and anticipating our upcoming trip to Mexico over Christmas, where we're going in order to visit family. We're really looking forward to it.



Kylie Thunderbolt
Volunteer

This Thanksgiving we plan to hike at Sunol, call the kids, in Oregon and Switzerland, and eat too much turkey. We'll also plan our outfits for the Nilas Canyon Railway Train of Lights, as we volunteer on it every year.



Janet Smith
Administrative assistant

I'm planning to spend Thanksgiving with my grandfather. We will have a light dinner and then go to see a movie together since pretty much everything else is closed until all of the Black Friday madness begins.



Kaia and Phoebe Davies
Elementary and preschool students

We're planning to spend the holiday at home, play with all of our toys and go shopping for our Christmas tree! And we'll be celebrating our mom's birthday, too.



Rashele Albright
Patient services specialist

I'm going to my father-in-law's this year, where my kids and I will get to see all of my nieces and nephews (their cousins). It'll be the first time in a long time that they'll all be together again, so we're really excited about it.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Eden Housing congratulates Livermore resident Diana Pinzon, a four-time Howard T. Collins Memorial Scholarship recipient. Thanks to her hard work, dedication and passion, Diana is now attending Samuel Merritt University to fulfill her life-long dream of becoming a nurse.

Pinzon was just one of the 29 deserving students who shared in a total of \$100,000 worth of scholarships sponsored by Eden Housing.

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DIGEST

Tight mayor's race

In one of the closest elections in the Tri-Valley, John Marchand has expanded his lead over Mony Nop for Livermore mayor in recent days as updated results have been released by the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office.

Marchand, a former mayor who reached the city's temporary term limit in 2020, stood at 52.17% to Nop's 47.83% — a margin of 917 votes. Nop, a former city police officer who currently works in real estate, was a candidate for mayor in November 2020 but lost to current Mayor Bob Woerner, who did not seek reelection for health reasons.

Nop actually held the advantage over Marchand at the end of Election Night, 50.84% to 49.16%. But when the county released its next results update on Nov. 10, Marchand was ahead — by just 14 votes. The margin widened with county updates on Monday and Tuesday.

Follow ongoing coverage of this and other Livermore elections at LivermoreVine.com.

Thanksgiving dinner

The ninth annual Tri-Valley Community Outreach Dinner for those in need on Thanksgiving Day is set for Thursday afternoon in Dublin, organized by a coalition of churches, community organizations and businesses from the region.

"The dinner serves seniors, military, veterans, singles and anyone in need in the Tri-Valley community. Join us for a traditional sit-down dinner, served at your table — no standing in lines, no paper plates," organizers said. "Dinner is free and reservations are not necessary. In addition to a wonderful meal, there will be entertainment."

The event will run from 12-4 p.m. Thursday (Nov. 24) at St. Raymond Catholic Church's Moran Hall, 11555 Shannon Ave. in Dublin. More details are available at www.TVC-Thanksgiving.com.

Holiday program

Tri-Valley Haven is continuing to accept registrants for its annual holiday program, which includes access to a turkey and trimmings for Thanksgiving next week as well as a holiday bundle in mid-December.

One registration guarantees placement in both programs (only one per household). Thanksgiving food distribution will take place on Monday (Nov. 21) from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at a location to be revealed to participants only, and the holiday bundle pickup will occur under the same parameters on Dec. 10.

For more information, go to trivalleyhaven.org or call 925-449-5845. ■

Margin razor thin as Measure I continues gains after Election Night

PUSD's proposed \$395M facilities bond within 0.061% as of Tuesday update

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Measure I, Pleasanton Unified School District's \$395 million general obligation bond, has trailed since Election Night but climbed to within a whisker of the lead as ballots continued to be tabulated earlier this week.

In order for a bond measure to pass, a school bond needs better than 55% of the vote to pass; currently Measure I has 54.94% of residents voting Yes and 45.06% voting No — just

0.061% from passing — as of this Tuesday afternoon, the latest update before the Weekly's press deadline. The bond would help fund the first tier phase of the district's Facilities Master Plan, with key projects on the list including the gyms and theaters at both comprehensive high schools.

"The 'Yes on I' campaign is closely monitoring the numbers being posted on a daily basis and continues to hope for the best," Bill Butler, a pro advocate

for the bond and co-chair of the Yes on I campaign group, told the Weekly after seeing Tuesday's update. "We know there are likely 10,000-plus ballots yet to be counted and at the current pace, a result either way may not be known until some time next week at the earliest."

Butler's co-chair for the Yes on I campaign committee, Todd Utikal, told the Weekly that he heard about 15,000 ballots have been counted in Pleasanton so the race is very much still up in

the air, even if they are gaining momentum since Election Night.

"In one week we've come up with, what, 2-1/2 percent?" Utikal said. "So I am nervously optimistic and hopeful that these counts that are still on their way, are going to go our way."

Measure I started off Election Night with 52.79% of residents voting Yes and 47.21% — mirroring the last election in 2020 when voters saw a similar

See **MEASURE I** on Page 7



Jeff Nibert



Julie Testa



Karla Brown

Nibert, Testa dominate election

Mayor Brown earns another term on ballot uncontested

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Incumbent Julie Testa and newcomer Jeff Nibert, the two City Council candidates who most supported slow growth in Pleasanton, controlled their respective election races while the formality of Mayor Karla Brown's reelection unopposed was confirmed.

Nibert, a planning commissioner for the city, has declared victory with his Election Night lead over sole opponent Dean Wallace strengthening to a 550-vote margin in the City Council District 1 race, as of the updated election results this Tuesday.

The Nov. 8 general election is Pleasanton's first time following a district-based format for the City Council's four-year term seats, with District 1 representing the northwest Pleasanton neighborhoods and District 3 representing the southwestern part of the city on the 2022 ballot.

"To the voters of Pleasanton District 1, I want to say a huge 'Thank you!' I am humbled by

the confidence and trust that the voters have placed in me," Nibert told the Weekly. "I look forward to serving not only as their representative on the City Council, but to serving all of Pleasanton as well."

Nibert, a 35-year resident of Pleasanton, took a strong lead of almost a 2:1 margin on Election Night and has maintained it as of Tuesday with 62.93% of votes, according to the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office.

"My initial reaction to the numbers was that they really affirmed the positive responses I have been receiving from voters," Nibert said. "I am grateful that our campaign message not only resonated with voters, but also aligned with their vision of Pleasanton's future."

Some of his campaign goals included supporting affordable housing in areas where it makes sense while retaining local control, improving the city's wells and maintaining the city's public safety.

"With the help and enthusiasm of our volunteers and supporters, our campaign seems to have prevailed by a strong margin," Nibert said. "There will be more votes counted over the next several weeks before the final count is certified, but I am confident that this result will stand."

District 1 candidate Wallace, a political staffer who currently works as a district director for Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Berkeley), more or less conceded the race in comments to the Weekly last Thursday. He sits far back in second place with 37.07% of votes.

"While the final results may yet tighten as more votes are counted, I think the writing on the wall is clear," Wallace told the Weekly. "This is a campaign that came with many rewarding moments and successes, but also its fair share of humbling and teachable moments — (Election Night) being chief among them."

See **ELECTION** on Page 9

ACE trains go to 100% renewable diesel

Commission sets goal of net-zero emissions in operations

BY NICOLE GONZALES

The Altamont Corridor Express announced Tuesday that its trains will now run on 100% renewable diesel fuel, making it the first commuter rail service in Northern California to make the switch.

The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, the agency that operates the ACE train system for commuters between the San Joaquin Valley through the Tri-Valley into Silicon Valley, anticipates the fuel switch will reduce ACE greenhouse gas emissions by 99%. The announcement is a step toward the goal of net-zero emissions operations, set under the commission's Climate Action Plan.

"We are proud to announce that ACE is operating with renewable diesel," Brian Schmidt, SJRRC director of equipment services, said in a press release. "Our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions has taken a large step forward."

SJRRC said the renewable fuel source comes from "responsible and sustainable feedstock, such as used cooking oil and/or inedible corn oil."

ACE uses up to 51,000 gallons

See **ACE TRAINS** on Page 9

Black Student Union members voice concerns about SRO program

Foothill students say district did not follow up on their requests to disarm officers

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Black Student Union members at Foothill High School told the Weekly recently that they felt like the Pleasanton school district had ghosted them after listening to student concerns about armed school resource officers.

“We mainly all came to a good decision that the officers should leave their service weapon in their car, because the officer parks pretty much on campus, like, really close,” said Aria Harris, a Foothill senior and BSU president. “(All of us) were saying how the officer having their service weapon with them kind of makes us uncomfortable ... but after the meeting, we never really heard back about what would possibly happen with that and if they wanted to consider that or not.”

Harris was referring to a meeting on May 5 the BSU had with student services staff from the Pleasanton Unified School District. The meeting was part of a listening campaign meant to gather feedback from student focus groups such as the BSUs at both Foothill and Amador Valley high schools, as well as others.

Before getting that feedback from the students groups, the district surveyed about 400 students via Google Form email surveys — all of which was compiled into a report for the Pleasanton school board during the same month.

The report was meant to update the Board of Trustees on how the school resource officer program was doing after the city approved a three-year contract memorandum of understanding with the district regarding the program.

During the meeting with the district staff, BSU members voiced their uncomfortable feelings with school officers being armed and asked to open the discussion on alternatives such as leaving their gun in their patrol car, which

Harris said is already parked on campus.

She made it clear that the members didn't have a problem with the officers being at the school, just that they were armed — which a Pleasanton Police Department official told the Weekly is a requirement for officers on duty.

“An officer's belt has so many other options that they could use, other than a gun,” Harris said. “I just think it's a little unnecessary, especially being around so many children, because you don't know what's gonna happen. Someone could reach for the officer's gun, and it could just be so bad.”

According to the SRO agreement with the school district and the city, officers are legally required to be equipped with a gun.

Pleasanton police Sgt. Marty Billdt told the Weekly that according to last year's MOU for the program, the officers “are not relieved of their official duties as a law enforcement officer.”

He said that means the city has the ability to remove those officers from their assigned schools in the case of any serious emergency, which also means they would have to be fully prepared with all their tools — including their guns.

“A handgun is just one of the many tools law enforcement officers carry,” said Billdt, himself a former SRO in Pleasanton. “The SROs, although working in an educational setting, need to be prepared for any type of call at the school and/or in the city.”

Still, when district staff came to their BSU meeting and listened to their concerns about officers being armed last spring, Harris said there was no follow up — making her and other members feel like their concerns don't matter.

“The SRO issue is just part of even a larger issue, because we are (effectively) in a segregated school district and we have such a

small Black and Latino population of students, that their voices are often overlooked in school decisions,” said Jorie Pratt, an African American literature teacher and BSU adviser at Foothill.

According to Ed-Data, a website that partners with the California Department of Education to provide data on schools in California, 1.5% of the students enrolled in Pleasanton schools were Black and 10.1% were Hispanic or Latino.

Kendra Kabiru, another senior and member of the BSU at Foothill, said she thinks not following through with their request makes her believe the district doesn't value the club's opinions.

“I think just because so many of us have seen so many horror stories with police officers in schools and stuff, it just kind of rubs us the wrong way that we voiced those concerns, and like nothing was done to kind of help us or anything like that,” Kabiru said.

For the most part, district staff had good things to say about the program during the May 26 school board meeting, citing high praise from student, staff and community survey results.

Their data showed that the majority of respondents felt safer and more comfortable with a school resource officer present at each of the schools.

It wasn't until then-student trustee Saachi Bhayani asked why the report didn't include the BSUs' requests on their service weapons that the topic came up.

“When the board came to our (May 5) meeting, they seemed really concerned and how they really valued our opinions and stuff like that,” Harris said. “They were taking notes and making sure everyone was heard and stuff like that. But after they came, nothing was done about it. No one reached out to let us know anything about it. The (May 26) board meeting happened. We weren't aware.”

Patrick Gannon, director of

communications at PUSD, told the Weekly that the district doesn't shy away from these conversations and will continue to look at engaging with students and communities on an annual basis. He also said the district encourages students to engage in these conversations, especially with the school board.

But Bhayani said the problem wasn't just that the district didn't follow through on the BSU requests. She was also upset at how the district surveyed students on this topic.

“Who was checking (their) school email; who's gonna fill out the Google Form?” Bhayani said. “Who's also gonna put trauma into the Google Form? I think that could be a better method of surveying that.”

She also said not breaking up the survey to account for race and ethnicity was a problem because it doesn't show the data on how those communities are being impacted specifically.

“The survey that students, families and staff participated in last spring promised anonymity to support honest and open responses,” Gannon told the Weekly. “In general, results are not broken out when respondent groups are small enough to be identifiable and thus risk inadvertently disclosing the identity of a student.”

But Amara Miller, a sociology professor at the California State University, East Bay, told the Weekly that understanding why these communities of color are impacted more from even just the presence of a police officer is very important when trying to understand this complex issue.

“I think it's important for us as a society to put this in historical context,” Miller said. “The origins of police forces in the United States are rooted in racism, not solely toward Black people but also to other racial groups like Asian Americans, Latinx populations

and indigenous peoples.”

Miller, who's areas of teaching and research focuses on cultural sociology, complex organizations and social movements, said that the history of how old police forces targeted and surveyed minority groups is rooted in all police institutions today.

“Personally, I don't think police belong in any schools,” Miller said. “It's not just because of the risks of police violence against students, which is always a risk even if it might be more rare. Police in schools can decrease feelings of trust among students and impact academic performance especially for students who are from groups that experience over policing.”

She said that can include students of color, but also folks who identify as LGBTQ+, disabled populations and even religious minorities.

Sgt. Billdt said Pleasanton police officers do receive department training in implicit bias, de-escalation techniques and conflict resolutions and restorative justice.

But Miller argues it's not enough.

She did add, however, that while she does understand the safety aspect, given all of the recent school shootings, school districts should focus on preemptive solutions in addressing kids who might be dealing with issues at an early age.

“Resources that go to school police could be going to fund more counselors in our schools, teacher's salaries to ensure class sizes are small and they can form deeper connections with their students to better recognize when a student is in need, and programs like restorative/transformational justice approaches to deal with student discipline,” Miller said.

Pratt echoed that statement and said that she would also prefer seeing more counselors rather than officers, “rather than a resource that is solely there to punish you or treat them like criminals.”

“That's what I told the district in that survey, but who knows what was actually read or not,” Pratt said.

Harris ultimately said that she just wishes there can be more discussion on the topic with the district, but made it clear that the district needs to do a better job at following up than last time.

Gannon told the Weekly that the district is looking forward to any future conversations with the police department and any student groups.

“We're fortunate that Pleasanton is a community where the police department is very proactive in engaging the community and families to build positive relationships — this starts at the elementary level in our schools,” Gannon said. “We are committed to ensuring students feel safe on campus, and look forward to conversations on how we can best serve our community in this regard.” ■



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PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Blu

Blu is a sweet boy, approximately 3 to 7 years old and weighing 11 pounds. He is FIV-positive, which means he will need an indoor only home. Cats with FIV can live normal, healthy lives for many years and should receive regular wellness checkups with a veterinarian to maintain proper overall health. Blu has been vaccinated and will be neutered and microchipped before going to his new home. Meet him at the East County Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin.

TVAR Visit tvar.org.

Price, Wiley neck and neck in county district attorney race

Script flips once as tally updated daily

By Christian Trujano

Progressive civil rights attorney Pamela Price took her first lead in the Alameda County district attorney race after previously trailing behind her opponent, longtime county prosecutor Terry Wiley, according to Tuesday's updated election results.

Price stood ahead in the election with 50.40% (129,037 votes) to Wiley's 49.60% (127,002 votes), as of the latest update before the Weekly's press time. The newcomer's lead was 2,035 with results updates due daily through at least this week by the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office.

Price took to Twitter in celebration on Tuesday night as she pulled ahead in the race for the first time, writing "MADAM DA!! GOD IS GOOD!"

Wiley, chief deputy DA for the county, first took a slim lead over Price on Election Night at 51.68% to 48.32%. Monday's election results update showed Wiley maintaining a lead with 51.52% of votes to Price's 48.48%, but Price still remained hopeful.

"Today's news is inspiring for Alameda County," Price said in a tweet after Monday night's election update, which inched her closer to Wiley's lead. "As we expected, my opponent's lead is dwindling and we are confident that when all the ballots have been counted, I will be elected the next DA of Alameda County."

According to the county's election data, the total tally of voter turnout countywide was 31.31%,



Pamela Price



Terry Wiley

including vote-by-mail ballots processed thus far and votes cast in-person. The total number of cast ballots that were recorded as of Tuesday is 291,508.

There is, however, still a chance for Wiley to change the narrative as the county will continue to release daily updated numbers until the results are finalized. Election certification is due by Dec. 8.

"I am grateful to see so much support for addressing public safety from every direction and I thank every voter who cast a ballot in this election," Wiley told the Weekly before Tuesday's election result update. "We know this will be a long count and we appreciate all of the election workers focusing every day on making sure every ballot is counted accurately."

The contest for district attorney was wide open this year with current District Attorney Nancy O'Malley not seeking reelection in favor of retirement from public office.

The district attorney oversees more than 150 attorneys whose job is to prosecute all criminal, civil and juvenile cases in the

county. They also set policy on jail and prison time and how much incarceration time should be given for cases related to drug use or mental illness. They also investigate and decide whether or not to criminally charge law enforcement officers accused of misconduct.

Price comes from a background of running her own private practice in civil rights litigation for roughly 30 years. She has advocated for criminal justice reform that focuses on alternatives to incarceration such as jail diversion and restorative justice programs for young offenders.

Wiley, who has worked for the county's DA Office since 1990 and has served in several prosecuting units, is also currently the director of the DA office's new Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which is focused on tackling crime while making sure justice is carried out fairly.

Price and Wiley — one of whom will become the first Black district attorney in Alameda County history — were the frontrunners during the primary election in June, which ended with Price in the lead with 43.23% of the vote among four on the ballot.

Price said on Twitter that she is grateful for her campaign team and is thankful for all the votes she received, but noted that it is still not over.

"There are still many more ballots to be counted, and in areas that I know we did well in getting our message out," Price said on Monday's Twitter post. ■

MEASURE I

Continued from Page 5

Measure M bond. The \$323 million Measure M bond received a final tally of 52.40% Yes votes and 47.60% No.

As a matter of fact, Measure M actually trailed with 51.41% No and 48.59% Yes on Election Night in March 2020.

But Measure I saw a different story as the first round of updates on Nov. 10 showed the bond picking up more votes toward approval but still remained roughly 1.75% short of passing.

Then on Monday, it went from 53.22% of residents voting Yes to 54.63% — the number of residents voting No went down to 45.37%.

Now that the measure has gained more momentum, Kathleen Ruegsegger, a former trustee and strong advocate against the bond, told the Weekly that all she and the rest

of the Vote No on I supporters can do is sit and wait.

"The numbers and percent are leaning toward the bond passing, but until we have the final count, we remain hopeful — with fingers crossed," Ruegsegger said.

The Measure I bond would utilize a tax rate of \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed value for Pleasanton property owners to fund that first tier round of projects which includes gym and theater constructions at both Amador Valley and Foothill high schools as well as new classrooms at Vintage Hills Elementary.

The second tier of the master plan will focus on deferred maintenance, restructuring of the visual performing arts in high schools, cafeteria and air conditioning and heating equipment.

Elsewhere in the Tri-Valley, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's bond measure appears headed for a significant defeat though the ballot-tallying

continues.

The \$450 million Measure G, which also required above 55% approval to pass, has not even received majority support to date — sitting at 51.27% No (11,313 votes) and 48.73% Yes (10,753 votes) as of Tuesday's results update.

And south in Sunol, the \$10.9 million Measure J school bond is still trailing, but the vote totals have not changed at all since Election Night even though thousands of ballots have been tabulated countywide.

Given the small size of Sunol Glen Unified School District, just a few more ballots could make all the difference: The margin is currently 78 votes Yes (51.66%) to 73 votes No (48.34%). ■

Editor's notes: Pleasanton Weekly editorial director Jeremy Walsh contributed to this story.

Follow updates on the election results this weekend online at PleasantonWeekly.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Valley Link Rail Project

The Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (Authority) as Lead Agency is issuing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to advise other agencies and the public that it will be preparing a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the proposed Valley Link Rail Project, consistent with requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the SEIR is to analyze the potential environmental effects associated with revisions to the previously analyzed improvements included in the Valley Link Rail Project Final EIR approved by the Authority on May 12, 2021. The purpose of this NOP is to request input on the scope and content of the environmental analysis to be performed in the SEIR.

The Proposed Project would establish a new passenger rail service along a 26-mile corridor between the existing Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station in Alameda County and the proposed Mountain House Community Station with all-day bi-directional service at frequent intervals throughout the day using zero-emission multiple-unit vehicles. The alignment would be constructed within a combination of an existing freeway median, an existing transportation corridor owned by Alameda County, and new right-of-way (currently characterized by undeveloped grasslands) to be acquired for the Project. The Proposed Project includes four new stations as well as an Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) and an Operations Support Site in areas at the east end of the alignment. Proposed changes to the 2021 CEQA Certified Project include relocation of the Dublin/Pleasanton Station platform to the south side of I-580, track realignment in the Altamont Pass, and a new Mountain House Community Station and OMF. The Mountain House Community Station would be constructed north of I-205 on a site west of Mountain House Parkway near the I-205/Mountain House Parkway interchange. The new OMF would be constructed on a site east of Mountain House Parkway and north of I-205.

Pursuant to Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines, the Authority has determined that an SEIR is the appropriate level of documentation necessary to evaluate potential impacts associated with the revised project. The Authority is seeking comments from agencies, stakeholders, and the public regarding the environmental effects to be analyzed in the SEIR. The full NOP provides a more detailed description of the Proposed Project and can be viewed online at www.getvalleylinked.com.

Scoping Meetings: Learn more about the project by attending a virtual public scoping meeting Monday, December 5, 2022 from 6:30-8:00 PM or Tuesday, December 6, 2022 from 11:30 AM-1:00 PM.

The virtual scoping meetings will provide an informal opportunity for attendees to ask questions about the Proposed Project. However, official scoping comments must be submitted in writing by mail, email, or through the online comment submission form on the project website, as described below. Please visit www.getvalleylinked.com to learn how to join the virtual meetings and to access additional project information. If you will require language assistance services at these meetings, please call (925) 667-4013, 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.

Scoping Comments: Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 PM on December 19, 2022 to:

Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
2600 Kitty Hawk Road, Suite 103
Livermore, CA 94551

Comments may also be submitted by email to info@valleylinkrail.com (please include "Valley Link Project" in the subject heading), or through the online comment submission form provided on the project website: www.getvalleylinked.com.

Si necesitará servicios de asistencia con el idioma en estas reuniones, llame al (925) 667-4013, 48 horas antes de la fecha y hora de la reunión. 如果您在这些会议上需要语言协助服务, 请在会议日期和时间前 48 小时致电 (925) 667-4013。

Nếu bạn sẽ yêu cầu dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ tại các cuộc họp này, vui lòng gọi (925) 667-4013, 48 giờ trước ngày và giờ của cuộc họp.

이러한 회의에서 언어 지원 서비스가 필요한 경우 회의 날짜 및 시간 48시간 전에 (925) 667-4013으로 전화하십시오.

Kung mangangailangan ka ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika sa mga pulong na ito, mangyaring tumawag sa (925) 667-4013, 48 oras bago ang petsa at oras ng pulong.

Attorney general files suit against manufacturers of ‘forever chemicals’

Bonta alleges PFAS are in bloodstreams of 98% of Californians

California Attorney General Rob Bonta announced last week the filing of a lawsuit against 18 manufacturers for allegedly producing toxic “forever chemicals” that have been proven to cause harm to human health and the environment.

Bonta alleged that the manufacturers, which include 3M and DuPont, continued to produce per- and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals, or PFAS, despite knowing their harm.

PFAS are frequently used to produce food packaging, non-stick cookware, water-resistant clothing, pesticides and personal care products, among many other consumer products. Bonta alleges that these chemicals are

in the bloodstreams of 98% of Californians, and prevalent in the state’s water sources, wildlife and soil.

Exposure to PFAS can cause developmental defects, multiple types of cancers, infertility and harm people’s immune systems, according to the lawsuit.

A years-long investigation alleges that manufacturers 3M and DuPont started testing the physiological and toxicological properties of PFAS as early as the 1950s, and internally concluded that they were toxic to living beings and were infiltrating the environment. But these manufacturing companies allegedly continued to manufacture PFAS, and publicly stated that science had not proven

the chemicals’ harm to human health.

“In our lawsuit today, we allege that the manufacturers knew or should have known about products containing (PFAS), and that the manufacturers failed to warn about the dangers of chemicals, and in many cases, concealed them,” Bonta said on Nov. 10.

Though there are thousands of chemicals classified as PFAS, this lawsuit targets the seven chemicals found most frequently in drinking water, surface waters and groundwater. Figures from the State Water Resources Control Board report that PFAS has been found in at least 146 water systems that serve 16 million residents.

The lawsuit is seeking injunctive

relief, damages, penalties, restitution and abatement, which Bonta estimates could be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The lawsuit also seeks funds to mitigate the harm of these chemicals through environmental testing, medial monitoring, replacement water and safe disposal.

“For decades, manufacturers were aware of the toxicity of these chemicals, which are so prevalent in humans, but chose to deliberately mislead the government and the public,” Bonta said at the press conference.

Bonta added that the announcement of his lawsuit was especially important on the eve of Veterans Day, as those who work or live at military bases, airports and

industrial areas are more likely to be exposed to higher levels of forever chemicals.

DuPont de Nemours officials said the company years ago spun off its chemical businesses, including those involving fluorochemicals, into an entity now known as the Chemours Company, and has not produced the chemicals mentioned in the lawsuit.

“While we don’t comment on pending litigation, these complaints are without merit, and the latest example of DuPont de Nemours being improperly named in litigation. We look forward to vigorously defending our record of safety, health and environmental stewardship,” a DuPont spokesperson said.

“3M acted responsibly in connection with products containing PFAS and will defend its record of environmental stewardship,” a 3M representative wrote in a statement. ■

—Olivia Wynkoop, BCN Foundation

Ceremony marks start of work on Dublin Cultural Art Center

Former police HQ being converted for new city venue

By NICOLE GONZALES

Dublin’s former police headquarters is set to be repurposed as a cultural, artistic and educational hub for residents and community members.

Recently, city leaders met to declare a milestone for the project — a groundbreaking to mark the first day of construction for the renovations.

Wielding sledgehammers, the

Dublin City Council and other officials participated in the event for the new center. The onetime home of Dublin Police Services will be transformed into a 13,000-square-foot arts and culture center that is expected to open in 2024.

For the past several years, officials had recognized the need for a cultural network facility in Dublin, according to city communications manager Shari Jackman.

“Beginning back in the late 1990s and early 2000s, long-range strategic planning always identified a Cultural Art Center as something meant for Dublin,” Jackman told the Weekly. “When conversations began about a new facility being

built for Dublin Police Services, a location was finally identified for the future Cultural Arts Center.”

Once the prospective center had a location, design and development would begin. Several study sessions and assessments were conducted to determine needs and feasibility of such a project.

During the development process, staff worked with residents and artists to decide what should be included in the Cultural Arts Center.

“There were several community meetings held prior to the design of the facility in order to obtain feedback and suggestions from the community and local art groups (such as the Dublin Arts Collective) about what should be included

in the design,” according to city officials.

Initial plans for the project include an art gallery, black-box theater with 150 seats, various creative spaces and an outdoor yard. Studios for music and dance are also set to be built. The center is set to offer plenty of educational and artistic opportunities for the public, including arts and crafting classes.

According to city officials, the project will cost an estimated \$11.8 million to renovate and build. The two-story facility will house the city’s Parks and Community Services Department upstairs, while the new Cultural Arts Center operates on the ground floor. ■

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COURTESY CITY OF DUBLIN

Design rendering of the new Dublin Cultural Art Center shows how the building will look once construction and renovations are complete.



COURTESY ACE

The Altamont Corridor Express train service has announced it will run on 100% renewable diesel fuel as part of enacting its Climate Action Plan to reduce emission.

ACE TRAINS

Continued from Page 5

per month — all of which will now be sustainable. “Our fuel partner, Valley Pacific, has been a key partner in this transition,” Schmidt added.

Since first welcoming passengers in 1998, current estimates report that the transit agency carries over 1.3 million passengers per year.

The SJRRC has made strides toward its goal of zero net emissions by introducing newer, efficient train models into service in 2017 that were shown to improve air quality emissions and increase passenger efficiency. The commission also manages the Amtrak San Joaquins train fleet, a route offered from Bakersfield through Stockton and to Oakland.

In other ways to reach its goal, the transit agency has supported

up-to-date research into zero emission locomotives. They said, “a key factor in this research is to identify and study a method of zero emission propulsion that can handle the grades in the Altamont Pass.”

Further action items within the Climate Action Plan are changing shuttle and connecting bus service fleets to electric vehicles. The agency has also stated they aim to run the San Joaquins trains on renewable diesel in the near future. ■

ELECTION

Continued from Page 5

Wallace said that while the end result isn't what he had hoped, he was proud of the campaign he ran and is thankful for his coalition of supporters.

“I know that I can hold my head up high, knowing that through this campaign I've stayed true to myself, and what I believe in,” Wallace said. “I ran this campaign on a message and with a platform I wholeheartedly believe in. Unfortunately, it was not what the voters of my district were looking for — and I respect their decision. I am truly honored to have taken part in this process, and will be forever grateful for the experience.”

In District 3, Councilmember Testa is getting set to return to the council as she took and then held a steady lead of roughly 10% over second place throughout the results reporting.

According to Tuesday afternoon's updated numbers, Testa sits atop the race with 43.09% of votes among three candidates.

“I am honored to have the support of District 3 to continue serving our Pleasanton community. I am looking forward to welcoming and working with Jeff Nibert on the City Council,” Testa told the Weekly. “I thank Pleasanton voters for putting their confidence in candidates they trust to work to

preserve what is wonderful about Pleasanton. I am proud that the outcome of our council election demonstrates that special interest money and endorsements do not determine Pleasanton elections.”

Testa, who first won election to the council at-large in 2018, has held a strong position on fighting to maintain local control and pushing back on the state's mandated housing laws. She has also supported recent council items to do more work on the city's problem with its water wells and has also called for more police oversight in the form of an independent auditor.

Testa's challengers for the seat were chair of the city's Committee on Energy and the Environment Joel Liu, who currently trails behind with 34.49% of votes, and former Pleasanton Unified School District trustee Jamie Yee, who fell short in the race with 21.60% of votes.

“I am grateful for all the voters who supported my campaign,” Yee told the Weekly. “While this is not the outcome I envisioned, I remain committed to ensuring our issues are lifted up. I encourage residents to get involved and engaged in helping shape our city's future during this critical time.”

Second-place Liu, who stood 352 votes behind Testa as of Tuesday, told the Weekly, “I do want to use this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported

or voted for me in this campaign. Win or lose, this is an amazing journey. I learned a lot by talking to hundreds, if not thousands, of Pleasanton residents.”

“Their feedback and perspectives helped to shape my campaign priorities and what I have learned from this campaign experience will help me to do even better when I continue to give back to or serve our community,” he added.

Mayor Brown, who ran unopposed during this election, has received 13,331 votes thus far — compared to the 18,192 she got in a hotly contested 2020 mayor race.

“I am excited to serve as Pleasanton's mayor for a second term. It will also be an honor to serve alongside council members Valerie Arkin, Julie Testa, Jack Balch and our newest member Jeff Nibert,” Brown told the Weekly. “Our city is in good hands with people who have served our community for many years, and we all understand that we have a choice on where to live and raise our families, and Pleasanton is our choice and our home.”

County election officials were scheduled to issue new results daily at least through this week, with final election certification due by Dec. 8. It is unclear how many outstanding ballots (eligible vote-by-mail, conditional and provisional) remain to be tabulated from within the Pleasanton city limits. ■

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County seeks input on mental health services

Online survey open until Jan. 31

A survey is available to help Alameda County health care officials deliver mental health services and treatment to residents experiencing an illness, county officials

said last week. The online survey along with events designed to get the opinion of residents will guide the services and programming provided through

the Mental Health Services Act. The act is funded by Proposition 63, a statewide initiative that passed in 2004. "It's important for us to hear from

people of all ages with mental health challenges, their family members, and community service providers," Dr. Karyn L. Tribble, director of Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services, said in a statement.

Tribble said the county values people's opinions in preparing a plan to meet the community's needs.

Funding from the Mental Health Services Act helped more than 140,000 people with mental illness in Alameda County during the last fiscal year, county officials said.

The money pays for infrastructure, technology, and elements of training for the county's mental health system.

The survey can be accessed at acmhsa.org/community-input. It's available in English, Spanish and Cantonese until Jan. 31. ■

—Keith Burbank, BCN

New executive director

Bost taking reins at Open Heart Kitchen

By CIERRA BAILEY

At the start of the new year, Open Heart Kitchen will have a new executive director, according to a recent statement announcing the leadership change.

John Bost is set to take over the role from current Executive Director Heather Greaux who will be transitioning to chief financial officer. Upon officially starting the position on Jan. 1, Bost will lead the organization's new growth, including the forthcoming Vineyard 2.0 overnight shelter and support network for the local unhoused population.

"My decision to transition into a supportive role was contingent



John Bost

on finding a suitable replacement," Greaux said in the statement. "John's fundraising experience, business acumen, and community connections will be invaluable to the next phase of this project and the continuation of our mission."

Bost, whose background is in organizational development and community engagement, comes with more than 20 years of leadership experience in nonprofit and religious settings.

He is moving to Open Heart Kitchen from the Livermore Homeless Refuge, where he has served as the advisory council president since 2013. In this capacity, he has increased organizational funding by 500%, established key community partnerships, and assisted in the planning of Vineyard 2.0 which is currently under construction.

The opening of the Vineyard 2.0

project is set for summer 2023. The project includes plans for 23 apartments of permanent housing support to help the most vulnerable low-income families, along with other services such as showers, laundry, mailboxes and temporary overnight shelter.

As part of the project, Open Heart Kitchen will provide free hot meals for the residents prepared in the onsite, commercial-scale kitchen.

"The board was looking for an outcome-driven leader to guide us through some big upcoming changes while building upon our recent successes and continuing to deliver on our core mandate," Open Heart Kitchen Board Chair Michael Haase said. "We are confident in John's ability to rise to the challenge and ensure our community has equitable access to nutritious food today, while building a food-secure tomorrow." ■

TAKE US ALONG



50 years and counting: Wayne Myers and T.J. McGrath continued their tradition (which started with six guys 50 years ago) of attending the Reno Air Races every year. Here, they're enjoying the blue skies with the Weekly in front of their reunion banner.

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.

We're Grateful!

November 2022 is the one-year anniversary of Three Valleys Community Foundation. As a place-based philanthropic anchor serving the communities of *Alamo, Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and Sunol*, we're focused on a singular goal: a community where everyone has the opportunity to live a full and rewarding life.

We're dedicated to the 300 worthy nonprofit organizations in our region who are on the front lines - today and every day, working to make our community the very best it can be. Over the last year, we've proudly supported five community fundraising initiatives, provided fiscal-agency status to several worthy local organizations, and added more than \$1.3 million in donor directed assets to our growing portfolio.



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us at www.3vcf.org

There is much work to do. And we're ready. But today, we simply extend our thanks to our community and our founding champions- for strongly embracing this vision.

Thank you for helping us
Give, Grant and Grow!



POLICE BULLETIN

One dead after successive crashes on I-680 in Tri-Valley

A driver was killed after her vehicle was involved in four separate crashes in quick succession on Interstate 680 near the San Ramon-Dublin border early Saturday morning, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The decedent was identified by the Contra Costa County Coroner's Division as Angel Beth Green, 46, of Sacramento.

The situation unfolded just before 3 a.m. Saturday on southbound I-680 just north of the Alcosta Boulevard interchange in San Ramon, according to CHP Officer Tyler Hahn.

A Mercedes C230 struck the center divider in a solo crash that occurred for unknown reasons, causing the sedan to stop in the left-most, No. 1 lane. "Shortly after coming to rest, a Ford Fusion collided with the disabled Mercedes, causing the driver of Mercedes to be ejected," Hahn said.

The Mercedes sedan then came to rest in the No. 3 lane of the freeway,

where it was hit again — this time by a semi-truck, a collision that sent the Mercedes back toward the center divider where it struck another vehicle that was stopped in the median, according to Hahn.

The driver of the Mercedes — later identified as Green — was pronounced dead at the scene. No other parties involved in any of the crashes reported being injured, according to Hahn.

The successive crashes led emergency responders to close all lanes of southbound I-680 through the area for just over an hour early Saturday morning. Hahn said the No. 2 lane reopened first, at 4:17 a.m., followed by the No. 1 lane at 6:08 a.m. and the remaining lanes at 7 a.m.

The causes of the collisions remain under investigation. Alcohol is not believed to have been a factor at this point, according to Hahn.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- The Livermore Police Department collected nearly 100 firearms, along with ammunition and gun magazines, during its first gun buyback event, held on Nov. 5 at Cornerstone Fellowship.

The department reported that the participants "included people who inherited firearms and didn't know what to do with them. Many appreciated the service to safely discard them. Others chose not to have guns in their home so they wouldn't end up in the wrong hands."

The total haul saw people turn in 94 firearms, including one gun that had been reported stolen, along with 26 gun magazines and 55 pounds of ammunition, according to the department.

"We are pleased with the success of our gun buyback and want to thank our faith-based and law enforcement partners who helped with the event," Livermore Police Chief Jeremy Young told the Weekly. "This event allowed those who no longer wanted to own a firearm with a safe option."

The city-operated program offered a \$100 Safeway gift card to each



COURTESY LPD

This was part of the haul collected during the Livermore Police Department's gun buyback event on Nov. 5.

person who submitted an operable gun, with \$8,300 worth handed out overall that day — non-operable guns, plus ammo and magazines, were also accepted but not eligible for a gift card.

—Jeremy Walsh

- The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority announced a settlement last Friday, with the families of eight victims of last year's shooting at the Guadalupe Light Rail Yard, including Dublin resident Jose Hernandez III.

The eight families filed wrongful death lawsuits earlier this year against the VTA, Santa Clara County, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and the security company tasked with protecting the rail yard, Universal Protection Service, over accusations of failing to investigate or take action after workers complained about the shooter's actions while at work.

VTA Board Chair Chappie Jones said the agency wanted to "move swiftly to meet the families' needs." The terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

"We commend VTA for agreeing to provide a prompt resolution for our families as to their claims against VTA," said the families' attorneys

Gary Gwilliam, Philip Borowsky, Jeff Rickard, Randy Strauss, William Mayoff and Richard Alexander in a joint statement.

Nine VTA employees — Hernandez III, 35; Abdojlvahab Alaghmandan, 63; Adrian Balleza, 29; Lars Lane, 63; Michael Rudometkin, 40; Paul Megia, 42; Taptejeep Singh, 36; Timothy Romo, 49; and Alex Fritch, 49 — were killed during the shooting at the maintenance yard on West Younger Avenue in San Jose.

A 10th worker, Henry Gonzales, was found dead in his home in August 2021 of an apparent suicide after witnessing the shooting.

The families of Fritch, Megia, Rudometkin, Singh, Alaghmandan, Hernandez III, Romo and Lane filed three separate lawsuits on May 26, 2022 — the one-year anniversary of the shooting — arguing that the VTA agreed to a \$50 million security contract with the sheriff's office and Universal Protection Service, both of which allegedly failed to conduct proper security screening, risk mitigation efforts and surveillance.

The lawsuits also alleged that the shooter, 57-year-old Sam Cassidy, has a "pattern of insubordination," had been involved in multiple altercations

with co-workers and that VTA workers had agreed he was the most likely staff member to "go postal."

Cassidy opened fire around 6:30 a.m. during a shift change at the rail yard. More than 40 employees were on site at the time. Law enforcement officials determined Cassidy killed himself before he could be confronted or apprehended.

As part of the settlement, the eight families have withdrawn their lawsuits.

Lars Lane's family is the only one that has not settled with the VTA, according to the transit agency.

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

- The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department last weekend impounded a car that was allegedly involved in a sideshow in Livermore last month.

Livermore police highlighted the investigative breakthrough in a social media post, saying deputies in L.A. stopped the vehicle in their jurisdiction on Saturday night.

"The registered owner of the car now faces thousands of dollars in tow and storage fees," LPD said. "Sideshowes are illegal and will not be tolerated in Livermore. Anyone engaging in sideshows could be cited, arrested and their vehicles impounded."

The case goes back to Oct. 1, when two vehicles were seen participating in a sideshow at the intersection of First and L streets in Livermore around 10 p.m. A Livermore police lieutenant observed a black Lexus sedan spinning donuts while a large crowd gathered around the car, according to the department.

The lieutenant filed for a court order for the car, which fled the scene, to be impounded for 30 days for reckless driving if it was located by law enforcement. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

Pleasanton Weekly

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POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Nov. 5

Theft from auto

■ 1:46 p.m. on the 2300 block of West Lagoon Road

■ 4:46 p.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Vandalism

■ 6:08 p.m. on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Burglary

■ 6:38 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 9:31 p.m. on the 2500 block of Wilde Avenue

DUI

■ 11:41 p.m. at Hacienda and Gibraltar drives

Nov. 4

Theft

■ 7:13 a.m., 5600 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto

■ 4:54 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Weapons violation

■ 11:59 a.m. at Sunol Boulevard and Valley Avenue

Warrant arrest

■ 9:50 p.m. at Willow Road and Owens Drive

■ 10:05 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Nov. 3

Alcohol violation

■ 1:01 a.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Domestic battery

■ 1:19 a.m. on Rosewood Drive

Theft

■ 10:18 a.m., 5200 block of Case Avenue; theft from auto

■ 10:40 a.m., 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard; theft from structure

■ 4:07 p.m., 2300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 4:20 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 4:46 p.m. on the 6700 block of Melody Court

■ 5:11 p.m., 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; theft from auto

■ 7:57 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Fraud

■ 3:14 p.m. on the 4100 block of Creekwood Court

■ 3:36 p.m. on the 3600 block of Hawaii Court

Vandalism

■ 5:14 p.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

Robbery

■ 6:31 p.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

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Holiday Fund now underway

Annual giving campaign will benefit
eight Tri-Valley nonprofits

BY JEREMY WALSH

This week marks the start of the 21st annual Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, a time when our news organization asks residents, businesses and community groups in the Tri-Valley to consider donating to support eight local nonprofit beneficiaries this holiday season.

The Weekly is teaming up with the Pleasanton-based Three Valleys Community Foundation (3VCF) to serve as the fiscal administrative partner for the 2022-23 Holiday Fund, meaning that 100% of the money raised will go directly to the eight nonprofits and all donations will be tax deductible thanks to the foundation's own nonprofit status.

The beneficiaries of this year's Holiday Fund will be Axis Community Health, CityServe of the Tri-Valley, Hope Hospice, Open Heart Kitchen, Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE), Sunflower Hill, Tri-Valley REACH and Valley Humane Society.

"The Holiday Fund represents some of the most fulfilling work that we do every year, raising vital funding and awareness for these important organizations throughout the Tri-Valley. We're so proud and so humbled to have reached 21 years and counting with our giving campaign," said Gina Channell Wilcox, president and publisher of Embarcadero Media's East Bay Division.

"This is always a time of year

when the need is significant for nonprofits and the individuals and families they serve. Add to that the economic strain many people have faced in 2022, and it's clear additional support for these causes in our community is so very critical as we look toward the new year," Wilcox added.

The 2022-23 Holiday Fund will continue from now until the second week of January. Donations will be directed to, and handled by, the Three Valleys Community Foundation, which will also provide all administrative support for the campaign and allow donors to benefit from its 501(c)(3) nonprofit status for tax purposes as well as eligibility for corporate matching where applicable.

The Weekly will donate advertising space and marketing services to the campaign. As always, every dollar donated to the Holiday Fund will go to the designated groups — with each nonprofit recipient garnering an equal share of the total amount raised.

Please consider donating to our giving campaign this holiday season. Get to know more about our eight beneficiaries here:

Axis Community Health

A core nonprofit provider in the Tri-Valley, Axis Community Health offers affordable and quality medical, dental and mental health services to low-income and

uninsured residents and families in the area.

New CEO Liz Perez-Howe said the nonprofit is thankful to again be selected as a beneficiary of the Holiday Fund, the money from which will support services offered at the Axis dental clinic.

"The fund focuses on the health and well-being of our community members. At Axis, that is what we are about each and every day, for each and every patient. We greatly appreciate that the fund engages more people in the important work we do," Perez-Howe said.

"Donations will support our dental clinic, which provides preventive care, treatment and oral health education. It is the only dental clinic in the Tri-Valley for low-income and uninsured patients," she added. "Poor oral health can have adverse effects on general health, particularly for pregnant women and those with chronic illnesses. These funds will provide dental visits for uninsured patients. Many are children and young adults who will be set on a path of life-long good oral health."

CityServe of the Tri-Valley

The funding provided from donors through the Holiday Fund will come at an important time for CityServe of the Tri-Valley, a nonprofit that focuses on connecting local clients with service providers as well as coordinating resources and volunteers among those organizations.

Executive Director Christine Beitsch-Bahmani noted that CityServe over the past year has opened its new multi-service center in Livermore and expanded its services to offer more senior-specific programming based out of Pleasanton — efforts the Holiday Fund will help support.

"This year with the expansion of our senior specific services, we would like to develop an engaging program to support an important technology gap identified for older adults," Beitsch-Bahmani said, adding:

"This program would include in-person socialization events and basic skill training workshops



CHUCK DECKERT

Hope Hospice hosts an interactive station at its Hike for Hope event to educate others about its program. The public can help make blankets as part of the day's activities.

such as: basic computer skills and smartphone use, learning to create and send an email, how to use zoom or other social platforms for connectivity to doctors, friends or family, how to simply browse on a computer to learn about things that are of interest, how to download a food, shopping delivery or transportation applications on a personal phone and/or how to quickly set up an emergency communications plan in case an unexpected health issue should arise and others need to be notified."

Hope Hospice

A nonprofit provider of compassionate services for patients at the end of life and support for their caregivers and families, Hope Hospice and Health Services "deeply appreciates" being part of the Holiday Fund family again this year, according to communications director Kendra Strey.

"The donations we receive through the program directly benefit patient care needs and help keep our community programs available to the public at no charge," Strey said. "Residents from the Tri-Valley and adjacent East Bay cities can utilize our dementia-care education resources, family caregiver classes, and grief support services even if their loved one is not on our hospice service."

In its last fiscal year, Hope provided 675 hours of one-on-one support sessions and 58 hours of support groups for people through its grief support program, as well as facilitated 102.5 hours of support groups and 169 hours of education and consultations for residents caring for a loved one with dementia.

"The community's generosity makes this all possible," Strey added.

Open Heart Kitchen

Another critical organization fulfilling a vital role for the well-being of many in the community, Open Heart Kitchen serves prepared, nutritious and free meals to people and families facing food insecurity throughout the Tri-Valley.

"We are so grateful for the support of our donors, volunteers and community partners. The donations go towards the ingredients, supplies and preparation of food for our meal programs," outgoing Executive Director Heather Greaux said of the Holiday Fund.

"We think of every meal as a chance to help the most vulnerable populations in our community find a better future," she added. "As we enter the new year, we are excited to be opening our new kitchen and dining room



AXIS

Dr. Patrice Lane examines a young patient at the Axis Community Health dental clinic in Dublin.



SUNFLOWER HILL

Sunflower Hill Garden participants harvest and wash arugula alongside a parent volunteer.

at the Vineyard 2.0 Project and the Open Heart Food Bank in Livermore.”

PPIE

Funds raised by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation go toward staffing, programs and grants supporting all public schools within the Pleasanton Unified School District — and outgoing Executive Director Steve McCoy-Thompson noted that PPIE was particular thrilled to be back at schools in-person this year.

“It’s truly an honor to be selected as a beneficiary. The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund supports organizations that are making a real impact on Pleasanton residents. So to be included means we can help more students and their families in the community,” McCoy-Thompson said.


“We use the funds for two important programs,” he explained. “They help fund our annual grants for STEM projects that give students hands-on experience with science and technology. And we help provide support for our foster students in the community to help them thrive and grow.”

Sunflower Hill


Focused on a truly underserved community in the Tri-Valley, Sunflower Hill aims to provide residential, vocational and educational opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Advancement director Pamela Zielske said much of the nonprofit’s success to date has been thanks to the generosity of local residents, including those who have contributed to the Holiday Fund.

“Donations made this year will support our program at the Sunflower Hill Garden in Livermore, which provides vibrant educational, therapeutic, and life skills training for adults with intellectual and



Holiday Fund



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

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

I wish to contribute anonymously.

Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Make checks payable to Three Valleys Community Foundation and send to:
Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund
 c/o Three Valleys Community Foundation
 5960 Inglewood Dr., Suite 201, Pleasanton, CA 94588

highlighted mobility projects at multiple REACH homes this year as “several of REACH’s tenants are aging and their needs are changing.”

“The one constant issue facing our community is affordable housing and it is even more pressing for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are classified in the extremely low-income bracket,” she continued, adding:

“REACH is pleased to share that together with the support of the city of Pleasanton, REACH is creating independent living for four more individuals through accessory dwelling units (ADU’s). Funds raised from the Holiday Fund will be instrumental in creating these four new living opportunities.”


Valley Humane Society

Serving the local pet community and their human companions, Valley Humane Society has seen the need for its services continue to rise — at a time when the rate of animals entering shelters far exceeds the adoption rate statewide, all while the economy is showing signs of reduced donations, according to the nonprofit’s president, Melanie Sadek.

“For the past 3-1/2 decades, Valley Humane Society has been committed to helping both people and animals in the Tri-Valley by strengthening our shared bond, and we can’t overemphasize the importance of the community’s participation in fulfilling our mission,” Sadek told the Weekly.

“We’ve made a huge effort to increase awareness around the need for community involvement and adoptive families by launching a national campaign called #SharetheCare,” she said. “We are also excited to see our Phil Scholz Veterinary Surgery Center open early next year, to increase lifesaving outcomes for adoptable dogs and cats by expanding veterinary opportunities for our local rescue partners and, ultimately, to serve our community at large.” ■



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developmental disabilities living in the Tri-Valley,” she said. “In addition, the Sunflower Hill Garden

produces thousands of pounds of fresh, organic produce each year, which is planted and harvested by our program participants and donated to local nonprofits.

enables REACH to provide affordable, safe, and quality housing for our most vulnerable population,” said Board Chair Kay King, who

“Your support enables us to fulfill our mission to create places and spaces where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live, work, learn and thrive as part of the greater community,” Zielske added.

Tri-Valley REACH

A longtime Holiday Fund beneficiary, Tri-Valley REACH — formally Resources Education Activities Community and Housing for Special Adults of the Tri-Valley — strives to provide residential opportunities to allow adults with developmental disabilities to live independently.

“The support of our community year after year is what



REACH

This past year, Tri-Valley REACH completed tenant improvements at multiple properties, including at this home on Vineyard Avenue where the nonprofit did a complete landscape upgrade, widened the porch and walkway to assist with their mobility issues.



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Dogs and cats receive regular socialization while awaiting adoption at Valley Humane Society in Pleasanton.

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Turkey Burn revels in expressions of thanks

TRI-VALLEY LEADERS REFLECT:
'WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?'

BY JIM BRICE



JIM BRICE

And they're off! Participants begin their walk/run at the 2021 Tri-Valley Turkey Burn. This year's event, hosted by Pleasanton North Rotary, is set to return on the morning of Thanksgiving Day.

Since premiering at Pleasanton's Ken Mercer Sports Park in 2015, the Tri-Valley Turkey Burn Family Fun Run has played multiple roles for its participants, its Rotary club organizer and the region as a whole.

The 5K/10K run, walk or stroll on Thanksgiving morning will rev up the metabolism of every participant to burn more calories than normal as they begin their holiday.

In addition, the Turkey Burn is a fundraiser supporting youth services sponsored by Pleasanton North Rotary. The club's six youth services program reflects the 72-member club's historic role advocating for Rotary International's commitment to youth development and leadership training in the Tri-Valley and around the world.

Most of all, the Turkey Burn is a community-wide celebration where families, friends and people of all ages share the spirit of Thanksgiving. More than 2,000 walkers and runners are expected to again enjoy describing why they are thankful through written messages or drawings appearing on their iconic Turkey Burn racing bibs.

Over the years, Turkey Burn participants have learned that sharing in this way is fun and can even be inspirational. Everyone has an opportunity to compare and comment on their own and everyone else's messages at the event. A large portion of the staging area will be set aside for tables, chairs and boxes of color pens and crayons, so even last-minute arrivals can create their own personalized messages.

To illustrate what we mean, the several public and not-so-public figures from Pleasanton responded to our request to answer the question "What are you thankful for?" Here's what they said:

"I am proud and thankful that I am a part of a loving family. As the mayor of Pleasanton, I am thankful for our generous volunteers and supporters that strive to provide food, shelter and much-needed hugs to those in need, not just for a day, but throughout the year."

Karla Brown, mayor of Pleasanton



See **TURKEY BURN** on Page 18

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FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE
FROM PLEASANTON BART STATION

TURKEY BURN

Continued from Page 16

"I am thankful for my family and friends, my health and a profession that allows me to make a difference. As the publisher of the Pleasanton Weekly, I am thankful we are part of a caring and engaged community and for the readers who support us. I am also thankful for my colleagues and honored to be part of a team of professionals who work hard every day to make the Weekly a credible and respected news source."

Gina Channell Wilcox, president/publisher, Pleasanton Weekly

"I am thankful for my international family of Rotary exchange students and their families. By hosting foreign students for an entire year and seeing our own high school kids from Pleasanton mature by living and learning overseas, they create lasting relationships of love and respect, while they learn skills they can use for a lifetime."



Kevin Greenlee, youth exchange chair, Pleasanton North Rotary

"I am thankful for my 'Grandma Oyo'. She passed 30 years ago, but the whole concept of the restaurant and the dishes we serve came from her. I'm thankful for my sons. Sam is my partner and CFO. He kept us solvent during the pandemic. My older son, Leicester, came up with some very good ideas for our takeout options and family meal packages that were very popular while they were all we were allowed to sell."



Maurice Dissells, founder/executive chief, Oyo Restaurant, Pleasanton

"And I'm also thankful for my community and for my employees. Our staff has been with us since we first opened three years ago. Without them, this restaurant wouldn't still exist."

"I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this great community. I'm thankful for the men and women of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department. I work with the best team anywhere. I'm personally thankful for a healthy group of friends and family members and for my own health. It has been a great year."

Joe Testa, chief, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

"We are thankful for all we learned through nearly three years of the COVID-19 pandemic. We learned how fortunate we were to be in a supportive community. It was through such support that we could test and vaccinate 25,000 community members and provide primary care for those in need. We were also grateful for our amazing staff that stood by us through those difficult years."

"And we are thankful for our patients. They trust us. They know we are looking out for their best interests, and they continue to come to us for their health."

Liz Perez-Howe, CEO, Axis Community Health

"I am thankful for my health, family, friends, Rotary family and the neighborhood where I live. As a life-long Pleasanton resident and 27-year realtor-broker, I am thankful for the trust and respect I feel from so many in the community. I just love the city leadership, the schools I attended, sports programs where I competed, our rich local history, the downtown, and how we care for our city and one another." ■



Gina Piper, CEO, Elation Realty in Pleasanton

Editor's note: Jim Brice is a writer, photographer, Pleasanton resident and member of Pleasanton North Rotary.

Turkey Burn details

To register: Visit the website, trivalleyturkeyburn.org.

Fees: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children (ages 10-17) and free for kids under 10.

Souvenirs/donations: Turkey Burn T-shirts, caps and other gear available for donations on the website. Participation medals awarded to everyone at the finish line.

Swag/bib pickup: Convenient, drive-thru pickup from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday (Nov. 23) at Ken Mercer Sports Park (5800 Parkside Drive in Pleasanton). Follow signs to pickup booths.

Event info: Gate at Ken Mercer Sports Park will open at 7:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Free parking available in designated lots.

Food donations and event schedule: Tri-Valley Haven Food Pantry will accept donations of nonperishable, non-expired food items at the Turkey Burn entrance. Free coffee will be served. After supervised warmup, the 10K event will begin at 9 a.m. Thursday (Nov. 24); 5K runners/walkers will follow at 9:10 a.m. Everyone will finish by 11:30 a.m.



Handel's Messiah

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Foothill girls' volleyball makes run to NorCal tourney

Also: Tri-Valley adult tennis team wins national championship

The young Foothill High girls' volleyball team advanced to the CIF NorCal tournament for the second straight year before seeing their season ended by Oak Ridge of El Dorado Hills.

In the loss to Oak Ridge, the Falcons got great play from junior co-captain Katie Salonga (32 assists, 3 kills, 3 aces), junior co-captain Paige Bennett (17 kills, 10 digs) and sophomore Kaycie Burdick (15 kills, 15 digs).

To advance to the NorCal tournament, the Falcons knocked off higher-seeded Monte Vista on the road in the North Coast Section semifinals.

Great play from Salonga (42 assists, 3 kills), Bennett (25 digs, 16 kills),

Burdick (19 kills, 12 digs), sophomore Lulu Hoenninger (7 kills, 3 blocks) and senior Tehya Williamson (17 digs, 9 service points).

In the NCS finals, Foothill fell to San Ramon Valley 3-0, with the Falcons getting great play from Bennett (16 kills, 10 digs) and Salonga (26 assists, 4 kills, 3 aces).

The Falcons finished with a 28-10 overall record and spot for the first time ever in the NorCal Open Division.

Amador girls' water polo

The No. 2-seeded Dons battled throughout, but in the end dropped a heartbreaking 6-5 game to No. 1 Las Lomas in the Division I finals last

Saturday at Acalanes.

The game went back and forth, with the teams taking turns leading the game.

In the first quarter, Amador got a goal in the final seconds from Evelyn McLaughlin for a 1-0 lead. In the second, Las Lomas tied it early in the quarter, but the Dons stormed back and got a lob-shot goal from Lily Keegan with four minutes left until the half to make it 2-1.

With time running out in the half, freshman Susan Swyers fired a laser from well out that found the back of the net with three seconds left to make it 3-1 Amador at the break.

In the third quarter, Las Lomas came out and scored three goals early to take the 4-3 lead. Another goal late in the third made it 5-3 Las Lomas, but the Dons scored one again as the clock was winding down, with Amador goalie Erin Brown launching a bomb as the last seconds ticked off to cut it to 5-4 with one quarter to play.

Keegan tied it in the fourth with a goal in a one-up situation.

Las Lomas scored with just under two minutes for the 6-5 lead. Amador fought back and had multiple shots, including hitting the post two times, but in the end, the Dons



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 2022 Foothill varsity girls' volleyball team.

couldn't find the game-tying goal.

Brown was sensational in the goal, keeping the Dons in the match, stopping multiple Las Lomas shots. The senior goalie also continually started the Amador attack with long clears.

Foothill signees

The Falcons celebrated seven athletes signing NCAA Division I letters of intent on Nov. 8.

Brandon Knight (University of Colorado, golf), Ava Perry (Siena College N.Y., softball), Tyler Gebb (UC Riverside, baseball), Jackson Flora (Loyola Marymount University, baseball), Brendan Comerford (St. Mary's College, baseball), Breuklynn Harris (George Washington University, swimming) and Yassin Dwidar (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, swimming).

There was no information submitted from Amador Valley, but I am working on running it down for future publication.

Tennis national champs

A local team comprised of players from Pleasanton, San Ramon and Dublin captured the 2022 USTA National Championship Adult 40 and Men's 3.0 title.

The tournament took place Oct. 21-23 in Arizona.

Team members were: Narayana Rao Surapaneni (captain), Vamsi Paladugu (co-captain), Raghupal Bejjanki, Ravi Guntur, Rajeev Gupta, Gautam Joshi, Manoj Lakinana, Dave McConnell, Shiv Sharma, Kishore Sundaresan, Venkata Venkataraman, Sudhish Verma, Mohammad Ziaee, Shankar Murahari, Bheemsen Aitha and Muneesh Batra. ■



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Workday, Inc. has an opening for Data Scientist in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Identify data-driven/machine learning business opportunities. Interested candidates send resume to: J. Thurston at Workday, Inc., 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference Job# 20637.1317



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Software Application Engineer

Workday, Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA: Software Application Engineer (SAE-003-J01-11/12) (SAE-004-J01-11/12) – Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Experience 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 and integration concepts. Interested candidates submit resumes 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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To place an ad or get a quote, call 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@pawebly.com.

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Entertainment

BANKHEAD PRESENTS JOSE FELICIANO 9-time Grammy winner Jose Feliciano will be performing some of his greatest hits at the Bankhead. 8 p.m., Nov. 18. Tickets \$105. Visit livermorearts.org.

SPARC THEATER PRESENTS BASILOSAURUS Shakespeare and Performing Arts Regional Company (SPARC) presents through spoken word, Basilosaurus part of its second annual Science@Play reading series. 7 p.m., Nov. 18-20. Visit SparcTheater.org.

THE TOAG QUARTET Oakland-based ensemble The TOaG Quartet debuts their new music showcase, featuring never before heard compositions from their upcoming third album. 8 p.m., Nov. 18. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS PAWLICK-MERKS-WYRICK Piano Violin Cello, three of the Bay Area's finest musicians combine for this trio at the Bankhead Theater. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 19. Tickets \$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS STUNT DOG EXPERIENCE Chris Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience is Dog Gone Fun for the entire family. See them live onstage at the Bankhead. 3 p.m., Nov. 20. Tickets \$35. Visit livermorearts.org.

CHORUS ECLECTIC Chorus Eclectic shares a vibrant evening of song as this concert celebrates and meditates on the beauty and splendor of the natural world around us. 5 p.m., Nov. 20. Tickets \$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

MANIA! TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES The Beatles band Mania has been playing to packed theaters and screaming audiences all over California. This is a show for all generations. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 25. Tickets \$38-\$58. Visit livermorearts.org.

Exhibits

THE FRANCHISE SHOW AT THE FAIRGROUNDS This show invites you to an exciting event to meet face-to-face with representatives from top franchise businesses looking to expand or develop in San Francisco. Industry experts will be on hand to ask questions. Nov. 19-20. Tickets \$10. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

MODERN EXPRESSIONISM EXHIBIT AT THE BANKHEAD Shape, Form, and Color: Modern Expressionism is an exhibit around the depth and expanse of Surrealism. Thursdays to Sundays, 1-5 p.m., through Dec. 4.

PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE MEMBERS' EXHIBIT The group's 15th annual Fall Members Show comes to the Harrington Gallery exhibiting a variety of 2D and 3D art. Through Dec. 17. 444 Railroad Ave.

CALIFORNIA PIONEER WOMEN ON DISPLAY Illuminating the hardships, joys and lives of female pioneers in California, "Her Side of the Story: Tales of California Pioneer Women" appears at Pleasanton's Museum on Main. On display through Dec. 30.

Festivals

EARLIER THAN THE BIRD Start holiday shopping with friends and family wearing pajamas and get the official giveaway for the season and prizes from boutique

shops. 7-10 a.m., Nov. 19. Visit livermoredowntown.com.

TRI-VALLEY TURKEY BURN The annual Thanksgiving Day Tri-Valley Turkey Burn is a family-friendly fun run/walk/stroll that benefits local youth programs of the Tri-Valley. Nov. 24. For more information, visit trivalleyturkeyburn.org.

Talks

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS Jill Hedgecock, author and freelance writer, presents "Muse Boards: A Visual Writing Aid for All Genres". This talk will describe how to make and use a muse board. Register by Nov. 18 at trivalleywriters.org. Meeting 2 p.m., Nov. 19, Four Points by Sheraton.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT THANKSGIVING SERVICE This interfaith Thanksgiving service features a variety of ways different faiths and cultures express gratitude. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Nov. 20. St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore.

CITYSERVE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING PRAYER BREAKFAST This uplifting event is the kick off for the region's Season of Serving, where attendees enjoy breakfast, prayer, music and an opportunity to network with fellow nonprofit, faith-based and community leaders. 7-9 a.m., Nov. 21. Tickets \$55. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel. Visit cityservecares.org.

Support

PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES PACKOUT Join the Pleasanton Military Families Packout to send care packages to our troops. Requested donation items can be found at pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org. Pre-packout, 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m., Nov. 18. Packout, 8:45 a.m.-12 p.m., Nov. 19. Veterans Memorial Building.

7TH ANNUAL MONY NOP TURKEY DROP Help local families in need by dropping off a frozen turkey, gift cards or cash. 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., Nov. 20. Livermore City Hall, 1052 S. Livermore Ave.

TRI-VALLEY HAVEN HOLIDAY PROGRAM Registration for the holiday program is open and closes Dec. 1. Register Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 12-3 p.m. at Tri-Valley Haven's Food Pantry, 150 N L St., Livermore. One registration guarantees placement in both events and one registration per household. Turkey distribution is Nov. 21 and the holiday bundle is Dec. 10. Visit trivalleyhaven.org or call 925-449-5845.

TRI-VALLEY COMMUNITY-THANKSGIVING DINNER Join for a free traditional sit-down dinner serving seniors, military, veterans, singles and anyone in need in the Tri-Valley community. 12-4 p.m., Nov. 24. St. Raymond Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin.

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Virus Geeks
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 593018.
The following person doing business as: Virus Geeks, 5820 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Madrix Diagnostics, 5820 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Madrix Diagnostics, a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein May 13, 2022. Signature of Registrant: Francis Lee, Chief Executive Officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 27, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2022.)

997 All Other Legals

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 22CV019830 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Thelma Adaku Njoku filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Thelma Adaku Njoku to Tyla Ada Ijeoma Njoku. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a

written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: December 2, 2022, 11:00 a.m., Dept. 17 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612. A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY. Date: October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2022. Judge Charles A. Smiley, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

Deadline is Monday at noon.

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

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 19-23 for Pleasanton, Sunol, Livermore.

Pleasanton

- 5447 Black Avenue #1** Mittal Family Trust to E. & A. Sugiarto for \$785,000
- 7560 Canyon Meadow Circle #G** M. Zakki to S. & J. Singh for \$640,000
- 6923 Corte Barcelona** Jackson Trust to A. & R. Sinha for \$1,525,000
- 7752 Flagstone Drive** Eugina Trust to N. & S. Jain for \$1,500,000
- 2756 Hartley Gate Court** 621 Los Ninos Way LLC to S. & K. Botlagunta for \$1,485,000
- 7865 Knollbrook Drive** Chen to Subramanian-Sendhilvelan Trust for \$1,550,000
- 5966 Laurel Creek Drive** Yao Family Trust to N. & M. Hussain for \$3,100,000
- 1420 Parkview Court** Rhee Family Trust to G. & K. Balagopalan for \$1,800,000
- 3077 Paseo Granada** L. & A. Fung to N. & A. Tiwari for \$2,000,000
- 5737 San Antonio Street** D. Gates to B. & C. Lu for \$1,490,000
- 4191 Torino Court** G. Somasundaram to P. & L. Lin for \$820,000
- 4164 Veneto Court** Opendoor Property Trust I to J. & B. Konijeti for \$1,025,000

- 4345 Chaucer Court** Paulsen Living Trust to S. & S. Chittila for \$1,614,000
- 4991 Dana Court** Rocha Trust to J. & M. Duranleau for \$1,190,000
- 936 Dolores Street** J. Zhu to L. Wen for \$690,000
- 4446 Edgewood Way** J. & W. Groth to A. & S. Zylstra for \$1,795,000
- 5748 Haggin Oaks Avenue** Dietrich Living Trust to M. Baltezare for \$825,000
- 342 Harding Avenue** P. Survivors to Foreverhome Properties LLC for \$760,000
- 1454 Heidelberg Drive** P. Dunne to Yung Trust for \$1,060,000
- 957 Lambeth Road** Sams Living Trust to N. & G. Ennis for \$1,100,000

Source: California REsource

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

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

PLEASANTON

- 4349 Second Street** **\$1,799,000**
Sat 1:00-4:00 3BD/3BA
Compass 925-997-2411
- 5262 Riverdale Court (T)** **\$1,125,000**
Sat/Sun 2:00-4:00 3BD/2BA
Compass 925-997-2411

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

Sunol

6625 Hubbard Lane K. & N. Guy to Nagaraj Trust for \$3,075,000

Livermore

- 721 Alison Circle** J. & M. Irby to Malik Family Ent LLC for \$1,300,000
- 102 Apricot Street** D. Vega to C. & D. Davis for \$955,000
- 942 Bellflower Street** J. Maystrik to C. & J. Johal for \$1,000,000
- 2851 Cellars Drive** Spencer Trust to N. & G. Shapira for \$2,550,000

"Thanksgiving is a time to give, a time to love, and a time to reflect on the things that matter most in life."

Daniele Duchery



Awards: Pinnacle, Grand Master, Master, President

Thank you to my clients and friends for all your support over the years! Wishing you all a wonderful, peaceful Happy Thanksgiving from my home to yours!

~ Cindy Gee & Family

Thinking of selling?
It's a great time to start getting your home prepared for the market.

Call Cindy Today for a Free Home Sales Consultation

CINDY GEE is a TOP LISTING & SELLING Residential Specialist!

CINDY GEE
Realtor/Notary, GRI
CalBRE #1307919

925-963-1984
cindygeesold@gmail.com



Happy Thanksgiving from the Pleasanton Weekly staff!

Here are some ideas to bring a warm and cozy feeling to your home this holiday season:

- Layer blankets and pillows
- Mix neutral colors with rich colors like burgundy, rust, plum and forest green
- Light some candles and a fire
- Create a foraged centerpiece and other decorations
- Fill a vase full of mums
- Hang a fall wreath

Pleasanton Weekly

925.600.0840 • PleasantonWeekly.com

Happy Thanksgiving to all of my clients friends and family from my home to yours!

Your Ventana Hills Resident Realtor
Janice Habluetzel
925.699.3122
janice.habluetzel@compass.com
Janicetherealtor.com
Compass.com
DRE 01385523

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A Team That Speaks Your Language

Our Mission is to guide you throughout the home buying and selling process to ensure that your experience is as seamless and stress-free as possible.

We are committed to providing the highest level of quality service to all of our clients!

Top 1%
Nationwide

47+
Years Real Estate Experience

750+
Properties Listed and Sold

103%
Sales vs. List Price

\$800+ Million
Successful Real Estate Closings since 1992

Giving Thanks



Thankful, for the opportunity to serve all your real estate needs. We appreciate your business, your referrals and your loyalty.

Uwe Maercz
Broker Associate
925.360.8758
uwe.maercz@compass.com
DRE 01390383

Sonali Sethna
Broker Associate
925.525.2569
sonali.sethna@compass.com
DRE 01194792

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VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

HAPPY CLIENTSGIVING!

We had the most amazing time celebrating "Clientsgiving" with our clients, friends, and family. Fun, laughter, great food, and amazing people! Thank you to our Clients, Ruby Hill Winery, Two Board Sisters, Sabrina C Media and Roger, owner of Ruby Hill "Stroll" magazine, for making our event a success.



We are so full of gratitude for our amazing clients and can't wait to keep celebrating **YOU** this Holiday Season!

Join us at our next event: December 4th from 12-3:30pm at Rubino Winery.
Wine, Santa Photos, Food, and Cheer. Can't wait to see you there!





Tri-Valley Market Update November 2022

88M+
Volume in 2021

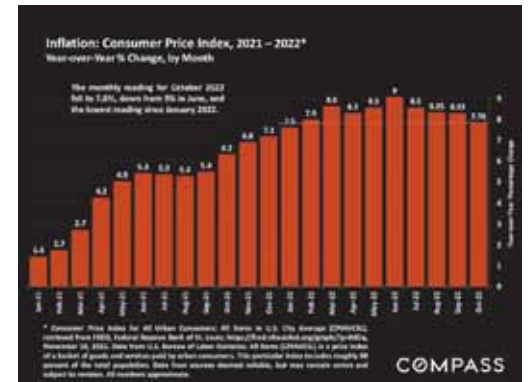
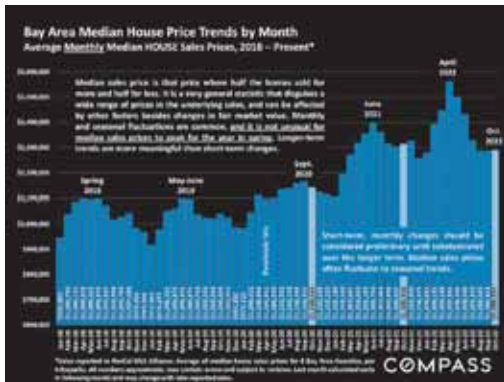
65+
Years of local
experience

67
Happy clients
in 2021

Thousands of homes continued to be sold throughout the Bay Area – a percentage of them are selling quickly over list price. After years of conclusively holding the balance of power, sellers have reacted to the changing circumstances in different ways: Besides increased price reductions since spring, the number of new listings coming on the market is well down year over year, and a much higher percentage of listings than normal is being removed from the market without selling.

The economy and the housing market have experienced a period of adjustment, causing many people to be more cautious to see how things settle out. Last week, we welcomed the Consumer Price Index increase of 7.7% for the year ending in October, a much slower pace of increase than the 8% economists had expected and the lowest annual inflation reading since January, reflecting a glimpse of confidence that the market is improving and continues to stabilize.

The market now enters the 2-month holiday period which typically sees the year's lowest levels of activity. Though at reduced levels, buying and selling continue. Owning real estate is a long-term investment and in the current environment, our recommendation to our clients is to buy and sell when it is the right time for them rather than trying to time the market.



WHO YOU HIRE MATTERS!

Now, more than ever...

**YOU NEED → EXPERIENCE YOU NEED → STRATEGY
YOU NEED → PROPER MARKETING AND
ADVERTISING TO SELL YOUR HOME**

Don't shortchange yourself...Hire the right agent! At Mohseni Real Estate Group, we put 65+ years of combined experience to work for our clients' success each and every day. With the recent slowdown, time is of the essence to sell your house now, and hiring the right agent to partner with is more important than ever. Our sellers benefit from shorter times on the market, more exposure, less time in escrow, and higher net proceed as a result of our next-level marketing strategy.



MOHSENI
REAL ESTATE GROUP
EXCELLENCE AND INTEGRITY SINCE 1999

If you're looking to hire the right agent give us a call or send us a text at 925.580.8011.

COMPASS 925.400.7533 | BayAreaHomeFinder.com
support@bayareahomefinder.com | DRE 01267039



176 Canyon Green Place, San Ramon
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,159sf | Offered at \$1,150,000
Pending in 10 days with 11 offers!
Call Farida at 925.784.2524
if you want to sell!



440 Canyon Woods Place Unit F, San Ramon
2BD | 2 BA | 1,026sf | Sold for \$750,000
Sold in 10 days after receiving
an all cash offer!
Call Farida at 925.784.2524 if you
want to sell!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO OUR CLIENTS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND



OPEN HOUSE THIS SATURDAY 1-4 PM

▲ 4349 SECOND STREET, PLEASANTON

3 BED | 3 BATH | 1,999 SQ FT +/-
NEW PRICE \$1,799,000 | 4349SECONDSTREET.COM



5262 RIVERDALE COURT ► PLEASANTON

3 BED | 2 BATH | 1525 SQ FT +/-
LISTED AT \$1,125,000
RIVERDALECOURT.COM

**OPEN HOUSE THIS
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4PM**



Julia Murtagh
925.997.2411
julia.murtagh@compass.com
DRE# 01751854

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Go to: Vimeo.com/MarcFrelier



Happy Thanksgiving

Sending good wishes to you this Thanksgiving! Good food that fills your table, good health as you work hard, and good times with family and friends. May you have all the best delights in life.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Eva Deagen
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Are you thinking about making a move? Call us today for a confidential consultation tailored to your specific needs. Learn about our Concierge Real Estate™ services. Let us coordinate for you so that you can focus on the essential things in life. We consistently get 5-star reviews. Check out our website at www.mcdowellhomesgroup.com or scan the QR code.



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6487 Half Dome Court, Livermore

4 BD | 2.5 BA | 1986 SF | \$1,250,000



39 Marques Court, Danville

2 BD 1.5 BA 1018 SF \$925,000



Welcome to Our World.

Local roots, global reach, and a lasting commitment to our clients and communities.

- + **17**
Local offices and 580 agents throughout the Silicon Valley, the San Francisco Peninsula, Santa Cruz, the East Bay, Lake Tahoe, and the Sierra Foothills
- + **100**
Affiliate firms in 50 countries throughout our global luxury network
- + **\$5M**
In charitable donations given to 300 local organizations
- + **Elevated benefits to our clients** - enhanced marketing programs and online exposure + unique access to services through Christie's, the leading luxury business

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INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
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1% For Good
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



BEST HOME IMPROVEMENTS THIS FALL

If you're thinking of listing your home for sale this Spring, your home deserves to look its best.

Here are the home improvement projects with the greatest return on investment:

- **Minor Bathroom Remodel:** Returns an average of 102%*
- **Landscaping:** Returns an average of 100%*
- **Minor Kitchen Remodel:** Returns an average of 98.5%*



KRIS MOXLEY
REAL ESTATE

JUST A FEW OF MY SELLERS AND BUYERS HOMES



SOLD - \$3,050,000

500 Happy Valley Rd, Pleasanton
Representing Sellers and Buyers



SOLD - \$1,815,000

4550 Gatetree Cir, Pleasanton



SOLD - \$1,710,000

4673 Gatetree Cir, Pleasanton



SOLD - \$1,685,000

4686 Sutter Gate Ave, Pleasanton



SOLD - \$1,800,000

5165 Oakview Ct, Pleasanton



SOLD - \$1,035,000

4047 Mendoza Ct., Livermore



SOLD - \$1,205,000

750 Alexander St., Livermore

A note from my clients :

If you want a stress free process for selling you home, then you need to call Kris Moxley Real Estate - Compass. She is so organized on every detail, from the beginning to the end. She was so helpful! The best job ever on selling our home. It was so pleasant to work with her, we love her!

– Sellers Terry and Susan



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Pleasanton, CA 94566



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