

Pleasanton Weekly

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AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Pulling a U-turn

A recent Pleasanton City Council vote on two proposed Housing Element sites was such an abrupt U-turn it left some feeling sideswiped.

The Housing Element, which identifies parcels in the city that can be rezoned and developed for state-mandated housing, includes two Pleasanton Unified School District properties — the “Downtown” site at Bernal Avenue and First Street and a Vineyard Avenue property.

PUSD Superintendent David Haglund asked that the district-owned properties be added to the list, with the goal for the underutilized properties to be developed as workforce housing while bolstering the district coffers for future schools in growth areas.

City and district staff worked together for months to produce a solid plan, with city staff recommending the Downtown property density be 8-16 dwelling units per acre and the Vineyard density be 3-5 per acre.

The district expressed concerns that the limits on density would negatively impact their goals of providing workforce housing and maximizing the value of the properties and requested increases to the upper limit of density.

But Mayor Karla Brown and councilmembers Valerie Arkin and Jeff Nibert slammed the brakes on the collaboration by denying the request, then pulled a U-ey by reducing the density for both properties. Then, continuing in the opposite direction, they voted to add a 3-acre park to the Vineyard parcel.

The density for the Downtown site was reduced from the staff recommendation of 8-16 units to 8-12 per acre, far less than the 8-20 the district requested. The Vineyard site density decreased from 3-5 units per acre to 3-4 — minus 3 acres now slated for a park.

“They didn’t just say ‘no, we’re not going to raise it,’ but that they were going to lower it,” Haglund said. “I was really disappointed...”

The vote was after hearing from Ellen Clark, Pleasanton’s community development director, that PUSD has the ability under new state law AB 2295 to build workforce housing on land it owns without approval of or input from the city, and that the minimum density under AB 2295 is 30 units per acre. The densities would likely be closer to 40-50 units per acre.

“My main concern is how this will

change the downtown. When I ran for council, the historic small-town charm of downtown was the No. 1 concern of residents,” Arkin said. “I feel our decision was reasonable and it was also taking the impact to nearby residents into consideration.”

“Our concerns include traffic on already-congested First Street and the busy intersection with Bernal, impacts on neighbors and neighborhoods, and the effects of building massing and height on the downtown area where it’s located,” Nibert said. “For these reasons I voted to decrease the upper limit in the draft Housing Element.”

“An appropriate housing project must balance all affected parties, not just a single organization. If a project can provide affordable housing to teachers, that is a wonderful bonus, and an important consideration,” said Brown.

“I feel like I’m between a rock and a hard place,” Haglund told me. “I really don’t want to put 400 units on this property. I’m being forced into this position that is not necessary and it doesn’t fit into the way we see ourselves in Pleasanton, or what I want to do. I’m being forced to (employ AB 2295) or abandon the workforce housing on this property.”

On behalf of the city, Clark provided a statement in support of continued collaboration “with the perspective that a project developed cooperatively, and at a moderate density agreed on by the city and the district, is most likely to deliver a quality housing development that has the potential to meet the goals of neighborhood compatibility and a meaningful amount of housing affordable to our local workforce, alongside market-rate units.”

While Haglund wants to be a good neighbor, his decisions have to be based on what’s best for the district, its employees and its students.

“In our collaboration with the city, we’re trying to keep all the options on the table,” Haglund said. “If we go the AB 2295 route, all those options go off the table. We don’t have the desire to do that because it’s not in the best interest of the community. But don’t lock us into numbers that won’t allow workforce housing.” ■

Editor’s note: Gina Channell Wilcox has been the president and publisher of Embarcadero Media Group’s East Bay Division since 2006. Her “Around the Valley” column runs the first and third Fridays of the month.

About the Cover

Xiaopei Chinese Dance student Eve Ussery performs the “Mulan” dance onstage in December. Photo by Yingjun Photography; courtesy Xiaopei Chinese Dance. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXIII, Number 52

A Starry Night

Fundraising Gala



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What are you glad to have done once but don't ever want to do again?



Solomon Ssenyange
Chemical engineer

I visited Serengeti National Park during the Great Migration. I saw lions, zebras, buffalo and crocodiles. It was absolutely thrilling. But seeing animals getting killed by other animals was very unpleasant, and something I never want to witness again. Nature is not kind, which is why human beings need to be kind to one another, regardless of the differences between and among us.



Bryce Lombardi
Construction

I don't ever want to get married again. I really hit the jackpot when I married my beautiful wife. Our life together is so great, and we have an adorable baby boy. I would never want to be married to anyone else.



Vivek Balasubramanian
Engineer

Many years ago I tried balut, which is the contents of a fertilized, unhatched duck egg. I ate the whole thing, including the feathers. It was tasty, for sure, but not tasty enough that I'll ever eat it again.



MaryEllen Lombardi and Franklin
Teacher

I once went on a helicopter ride over a volcano in Hawaii. It was so exciting, but I felt carsick the entire time. Because it was such an uncomfortable experience for me, it's something I really don't want to ever do again.



Lisa Crane
Sales clerk

I don't ever want to be pregnant and/or give birth, ever again. It was the most excruciatingly painful experience of my life. I'm thrilled to have my son though, so I'm glad I experienced all of that once. My husband and I thereafter adopted two delightful little girls from China. It's so wonderful to have and raise these children without ever having had to experience the pain of childbirth to get them.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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A message from our Livermore Vine editor, Cierra Bailey



Cierra Bailey
EDITOR

I'm Cierra Bailey, and I'm an editor for Embarcadero Media, the small local news organization that includes the Pleasanton Weekly, Livermore Vine and DanvilleSanRamon.

My interest in pursuing journalism began as a high school student in Livermore and was inspired by the fact that I was inquisitive and loved to write. It wasn't until years later when I started my first internship with the Pleasanton Weekly that I truly recognized the importance of local journalism.

One of the first stories I ever wrote for the Weekly was about Relay for Life, a 24-hour cancer fundraising walk that was taking place in Pleasanton. Speaking to local cancer survivors who shared the details of their battles against the disease and their commitment to supporting others going through similar journeys sparked a light in me that let me know this is what I'm supposed to be doing. My calling is to uplift the voices of those who are making significant impacts in communities that are often overlooked.

In the years since, I've had the privilege of covering a number of compelling stories for our news organization as a reporter and as the founding editor of LivermoreVine.com.

More recently, I had the pleasure of interviewing Brock Uhl, who at the time was 17 years old and was changing the culture of the Tri-Valley by organizing and hosting drag shows at local venues throughout the region.

I didn't realize at first the impact the article had by shining a spotlight on drag culture and underscoring the importance of inclusion and acceptance in the Tri-Valley. However, when Uhl reached out to me after the article was published and asked to meet in person so that he could thank me face-to-face, I was reminded yet again why local community journalism matters. Our stories have the power to make people feel seen and it has been an honor to do so in the community that has been home to me for most of my life.

Because of these experiences and so many more over the course of my career, I strongly believe that community is at the heart of local journalism which is why we need your help to sustain it. Your support means we can continue this journey together. Consider helping us fulfill our mission by becoming a member today.

DIGEST

Future of housing

The Pleasanton City Council is scheduled to hold a special meeting next Thursday (Jan. 26) at 6 p.m. to discuss key aspects around the future of housing in Pleasanton.

Topics set for the agenda that night include the environmental impact report and related documents for the city's Housing Element update, components of the Stoneridge Mall framework and objective design standards for residential development.

To learn more, check out the agenda at cityofpleasantonca.gov.

RV show at fairgrounds

Pleasanton is going to the recreational travelers for the next week and a half.

The 34th Manufacturers RV Show is returning to the Alameda County Fairgrounds from Jan. 21-29, with displays from dealers across the industry indoors and out for the full nine days.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the Sundays, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Monday through Friday. For tickets and more details, visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Mastering emotions

Las Positas College is hosting the monthly meeting of the Tri-Valley Branch of the California Writers Club this Saturday as author C.S. Lakin leads a three-hour workshop on "how to convey the emotions of your characters and evoke an emotional response in readers."

Lakin is an experienced novelist, copyeditor, writing coach, mom and backpacker who has written more than a dozen non-fiction books on writing and productivity. She also serves as the fiction track director of the San Francisco Writers' Conference.

The in-person session will begin at 2 p.m. in Room 2470 at Las Positas College in Livermore. Visit www.trivalleywriters.org to make a reservation.

'A Taste of Broadway'

The Bankhead Theater in Livermore is tapping into New York City vibes with two shows next week.

On Monday, "Lucy Loves Desi: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Sitcom" will feature Broadway-level comedic talents recounting the tale of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz and the creation of their timeless television show. The performance is set for 7:30 p.m.

Four days later, Broadway performer Jessica Vosk, known for her acclaimed run as Elphaba in "Wicked", will be presenting a concert set for 8 p.m. on Friday.

For more information, visit livermorearts.org. ■

PUSD officials provide update on what comes next for Measure I

Immediate steps include creating implementation plan, advancing 'quick-start' projects

By Christian Trujano

Two months have gone by since the majority of Pleasanton voters passed Measure I, the \$395 million general obligation bond that will go toward funding for school facility upgrades.

Now that the November election results have been certified, the Pleasanton Unified School District has begun the process of creating a detailed implementation plan that

district leaders say will help ensure they deliver the promises listed in the bond.

"We're thrilled that over 57% of the voters in Pleasanton agreed that there were some significant needs at the school sites that they were willing to help fund," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund told the Weekly. "It's nice to have that level of support from the community."

According to the Alameda County

Registrar of Voters' Office final election results, Measure I passed with 57.20% (15,710 ballots) voting Yes, and 42.80% (11,757) voting No. The bond measure needed better than 55% of the vote in order to pass.

It is the second bond that Pleasanton voters have approved since 2016, when the \$270 million Measure II passed that November. PUSD had previously attempted to pass another bond in 2020, but the

\$323 million Measure M bond fell short with a final tally of 52.40% Yes votes and 47.60% No.

"We had a failed attempt a few years ago at the start of COVID, which was unfortunate, but not surprising, given the state of the economy and the rise of the virus at the time," Haglund said. "So bringing another one back as quickly as

See **MEASURE I** on Page 6



COURTESY JOHN MUIR HEALTH

San Ramon Regional Medical Center is poised to be under the sole ownership of John Muir Health, pending the approval of a deal with current majority owners Tenet Healthcare that was announced Jan. 11.

John Muir Health poised to acquire San Ramon Regional Medical Center

Tenet agrees to \$142.5M deal, pending federal approval

By Jeanita Lyman

San Ramon Regional Medical Center is set to be sold in full to John Muir Health, pending the approval and completion of a nine-figure deal with the current majority owner, Tenet Healthcare.

John Muir officials last week announced the deal in which Tenet Healthcare has agreed to sell its majority interest in the hospital — 51% — to John Muir Health for \$142.5 million, which currently has a 49% interest. The transaction, which is subject to review by federal regulators, would make John Muir Health the sole owner.

"We believe that this acquisition is good for our community, caregivers, patients, and John Muir

Health and San Ramon Regional Medical Center," Mike Thomas, president and CEO of John Muir Health, said in a statement on Jan. 11.

John Muir Health previously invested nearly \$100 million for its 49% stake in SRRMC in 2013, and partnered with Tenet Healthcare on their outpatient center in Pleasanton, which broke ground in 2015.

John Muir Health officials said that the local nonprofit healthcare system's goals in numerous ways, including the integration of SRRMC into John Muir Health's electronic health record throughout their system, Epic, extending programming and investing in

facilities and services at SRRMC.

"We view this as a long-term opportunity to expand our services and better serve the growing populations in the San Ramon Valley and Tri-Valley. By allocating fixed costs over a broader scope of operations, we will also improve cost effectiveness for patients and health plans," Thomas said.

SRRMC is currently headed by CEO Ann Lucena, who took the torch from previous CEO Gary Sloan in 2018.

The deal is expected to be finalized this year, pending closing conditions that include approval by the Federal Trade Commission, with Tenet retaining majority interest in the hospital until then. ■

Council reduces Weekends on Main

Downtown street closure events cut down to six for 2023

By Christian Trujano

The Pleasanton City Council on Tuesday approved a shortened timeframe for the First Weekends on Main Street program in 2023 after considering recent input from downtown residents, retailers and other business owners.

First Weekends on Main Street, which will continue to shut down Main Street late Friday afternoons through Sunday evenings on the first weekend of the month, is now scheduled to start in May and end in October for a total of six weekends. Last year the program closed down the downtown area to vehicular traffic for a total of 10 weekends from May to December.

"The First Weekends on Main seasons have been well received by the community as they provide outdoor space for expanded operations, as well as an expanded pedestrian environment, with space for gathering," economic development manager Lisa Adamos said. "These activities were vital during the pandemic, and help bring the vibrancy into the downtown."

Originally called Weekends on Main, the program was first introduced in 2020 by the Pleasanton Downtown Association, which still runs the program today, so businesses in the area could continue operating during the

See **WEEKENDS** on Page 8

Pleasanton ratifies emergency proclamation amid storm damage

Council grants Beaudin financial authorization to secure supplies, professional services

By **CHRISTIAN TRUJANO**

The Pleasanton City Council confirmed two resolutions that will allow city staff to continue their work in responding to emergency damages due to the recent and upcoming rainstorms during a special meeting last week.

According to City Manager Gerry Beaudin the atmospheric river storms, which started on New Year's Eve and have continued throughout the first week of the year, have caused about \$5 million in public damages.

He also said that the public and private impacts of the storms were the reason why he proclaimed a local emergency on Jan. 9, which had to be ratified by the council. Councilmember Valerie Arkin was the only member not present during the special meeting Jan. 11.

"We want to best position ourselves for any potential cost recovery that we could see," Beaudin said. "The tree damage and flooding impacts continue and we are expecting more weather in the days to come so the emergency declaration would be in place until we are able to move

away from repairing, replacing and cleaning up from the storm damage and we have a good understanding of the damage totals that we're expecting."

Along with ratifying the city manager's proclamation, the council also approved a resolution that gives him financial authorization to purchase supplies such as sandbags and extend or purchase new city contracts with professional services.

One example of those professional services, Beaudin said, would be the trucks that suck the dirt out of pipes.

Normally, if the contract for such a service hits its maximum limit and the city wants to keep them working, then they would need to go through its regular process of amending the contract to add that extra dollar amount — which can take weeks to ratify.

"What this would say is I would authorize staff to extend that contract for \$60,000, \$50,000 the same day," Beaudin told the council. "They keep working and then at the next regular council meeting, I would come to you and I would say, we did an amendment to this contract

at this amount, on this day, for these purposes and ideally, you will ratify that decision. If you're not happy with it, I would expect to hear about it publicly, and probably in my next performance evaluation."

But while the council unanimously voted in favor of both these resolutions, which give Beaudin more financial and decision-making flexibility as the acting city's director of emergency operations, council members had some questions during the 30-minute meeting.

The first was from Vice Mayor Jack Balch who asked when will the local emergency proclamation end?

"Our interest is in winding this down as quickly as possible. I would expect that if we could get a period of less or no rain, which would allow us to complete our damage assessments and our cleanup work, we would be able to come back to the council and sunset the local proclamation for the emergency," Beaudin said. "If we did need to put it back into place, we could certainly do that, but our goal is to not be in a state of emergency for any longer than necessary."



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Localized flooding and downed trees (like this 50-foot pine that fell near Del Prado Park) have been among the major impacts for the city of Pleasanton during the storms.

City attorney Dan Sodergren clarified that if the city doesn't end the local emergency proclamation in 60 days, the council can revisit it and decide whether to end it or not.

But the other main talking point that Balch and Councilmember Julie Testa touched on was if the city manager had a dollar amount limit on authorizing funds for any storm-related emergency services.

But Beaudin said that he doesn't think the city will need to spend exorbitant amounts of money and that the city is hoping insurance covers most of the public damages caused by the storm. If it doesn't then those repairs will be brought to the council just like any other item.

He also said that he will work to honor the council's motion that he

remain transparent during any purchases and that he will continue to work with staff on clearing up trees, debris and any other storm-related issues.

Mayor Karla Brown ended the discussion by thanking Beaudin, who had worked on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, and all the first responders — firefighters, police officers — for all their efforts.

"It's been all hands on deck," Brown said. "I am just so impressed that the city of Pleasanton sees the need for this emergency situation — to stand up and be there for the residents. I've received so many compliments from our residents that it just shows that we are an outstanding community and we are here for our residents." ■

MEASURE I

Continued from Page 5

we did was a little bit nerve racking for me, but the community came through and we're really pleased."

Measure I will help fund the first tier phase of the district's Facilities Master Plan, which was approved by the school board in June.

It will utilize a tax rate of \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed value for Pleasanton property owners to fund that first tier round of projects 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.

But before any real design plans for those rebuilds can be drawn up, PUSD assistant superintendent of business services Ahmad Sheikholeslami told the Weekly that having an implementation plan is crucial to make sure the bond goals are met with fidelity.

He said the district has already begun looking into and interviewing different design firms that specialize in creating these types of implementation plans.

"We're excited to be bringing forward to the (Board of Trustees) a

contract on the 19th and selection of a firm that will help us put that plan together," Sheikholeslami said. "That will probably be about a three- to four-month process in which we work on a lot of the details." (The outcome of this week's school board meeting occurred after the Weekly went to press.)

Some of those details include verifying the total estimates for the construction projects, refining the scope of work and phasing for those projects, building budget plans, analyzing cash flow and putting together a program management plan.

"Obviously we'll see the board's approval of (the implementation plan), but it will also help us with the timing of the bond sale, which we anticipate will be in the late spring, early summer timeframe," Sheikholeslami said.

But after the bond sale, the district will have a lot more work to do before any real construction can begin. Especially for the big gym and theater rebuild projects.

"These projects are marquee. They take somewhere from six to eight months to design ... another six to eight months for (Division of the State Architect inspectors) to review and approve them and then you've got construction that could take one to two years, depending on these projects," Sheikholeslami said.

He added that the district also has to take into account that these are active school sites, which means that

they will have to figure out where to temporarily move these programs while construction is underway.

But Haglund said that even though it will take a long time to get to the construction phase, it's important that the district takes its time in gathering community and stakeholder input so that these projects can reflect what the students and residents want to see.

Sheikholeslami added that while the site planning process and getting the input will extend the timeline, it's important to get that input.

"It would be somewhat easy for the district to push forward plans that we design in a bubble, but that's not what the community deserves," Haglund said. "When Ahmad is talking about the community engagement process, that really is because we have a desire to have the community participate in the design phases of this, (but) that will make it take a bit longer."

However, Sheikholeslami did mention that there will be some "quick-start" projects, which will be prioritized for construction before those marquee projects. These quick-start projects include moving the long-running Horizon Early Education Center and STEAM Preschool program to Harvest Park Middle School and replacing all of the middle schools in Pleasanton with artificial turf.

"Those are kind of lower-hanging fruits that we could package up so

that we know what the scope (of work) is going to be," Sheikholeslami said. "We really need to get them into a new good space and so those are the projects that we probably can kind of quick start as we allow some of the planning work right now to go forward."

He added that the Horizon and STEAM programs are being moved to Harvest Park because the current facilities which they operate from are outdated and aging and the middle school already has a preschool program operating from there.

"That was where we had recently built the all-purpose or inclusionary type of playground for them and so it really makes sense to kind of create a hub in that location with all our programs so they could take advantage of the playground space and really build a great program," Sheikholeslami said.

But throughout the Measure I election cycle, many residents went on to comment on several online forums criticizing the district saying that they don't trust the district will appropriately handle the bond dollars. Many referenced information from the Vote No on I campaign which stated that the district did not do well in managing the previous bond because they did not deliver on building a new elementary school that was promised in 2016's Measure II.

Both Haglund and Sheikholeslami said the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, which looks for any

potential misallocation of dollars on any of the related bond projects and an auditing process that goes on related to the bond, all showed no misappropriation of funds.

"Every single time since we had the Measure II dollars allocated, we've received a clean audit," Haglund said.

He added that the group of people alleging these misappropriations are, "a very small group of the same people that keep saying the same things over and over again and they're not basing their opinions on the facts, including the audits and the role of the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee."

"There are times when you have to pay attention to legitimate trust issues because of an issue that occurred, and you have rebuilding of trust that you have to do within the community," Haglund said. "But there are also times when people shout about trust issues that are unfounded."

Sheikholeslami also pointed out that the district estimated about \$7 million of savings from Measure II funds that will go toward furthering PUSD projects.

"(Sheikholeslami) talked about furthering the projects but that was because the funds were managed well and so if it were mismanaged, you would see over expenditures that's been occurring in other districts nearby, where promises are made and budgets are not kept," Haglund said. ■

Pleasanton appoints new deputy city manager

Oakland economic development director Jeffress starting here on Feb. 6

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton city government team will soon be welcoming another new face as the city announced the appointment of Alexa Jeffress as its next deputy city manager.

Jeffress, who currently works for the city of Oakland, will start in Pleasanton on Feb. 6, according to a press release issued last week.



Alexa Jeffress

"We are pleased to welcome Alexa to the executive team at the city of Pleasanton," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said in the press release. "Her diverse career experiences and responsibilities will serve our organization and the community, now and as we plan for the future. This is an exciting time for Pleasanton as we address a number of opportunities to advance the goals of our City Council. We're excited that Alexa will be joining us in this effort."

Jeffress will be taking over the role after assistant city manager Pamela Ott held the deputy

position since January 2020 before being officially promoted to her current position in December.

Jeffress works in Oakland where she has been serving as the director of the city's Economic and Workforce Development Department for the past three years. There, she has been directing staff in six divisions that include: public and private development, real estate, cultural affairs, workforce and business development, and special activities.

"I am excited to join the executive team in Pleasanton and support City Manager Beaudin as he

implements the city's vision for the future," Jeffress said in a statement to the Weekly. "I look forward to working together with the community and the talented city staff to advance strategies for sustainable growth and organizational success consistent with the core strengths and values that make Pleasanton a great place to live, work and do business."

According to the press release, she has more than 20 years of experience in government administration, project management and economic and community development.

"Her tenure includes experience with housing and real estate development in the public and private sectors, including leadership positions with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and BRIDGE Housing in San Francisco," the press release stated.

BRIDGE Housing is a real estate nonprofit developer that focuses on affordable housing.

In both these positions, Jeffress has worked with city officials, public housing authorities and community stakeholders to advance housing solutions, according to the press release. ■

Newly rebuilt classrooms, library, admin office open at Lydiksen

One of PUSD's largest Measure 11 projects is now nearing full completion

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District leaders, students and staff recently gathered at Lydiksen Elementary School for a ribbon-cutting ceremony that commemorated the completion of new buildings and classrooms.

Lydiksen's newly constructed library, administration office and 15 new classrooms were part of the overall project to rebuild the entire school on Highland Oaks Drive.

The \$30 million rebuild project was funded by the \$270 million school facilities bond Measure 11, passed by voters in 2016 to repair and modernize local schools.

Construction at the school first began in February 2020 and is now nearing full completion following these newly constructed buildings.

"Lydiksen Elementary has served our community for over 50 years, and I'm proud to know that we now have the modern learning environments that our current and future generations of students deserve," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund said in a statement to the Weekly. "This was all made possible by the investment of our community through Measure 11, we continue to be grateful for their support of our students."

Now that winter break is over,

students and staff have been able to experience the new amenities of the rebuild, which PUSD director of communications Patrick Gannon said was one of the largest Measure 11 construction projects. The ribbon-cutting ceremony at the school was held Dec. 8.

Some of the technical infrastructure improvements that Gannon noted were new underground utilities, a new gas distribution system and a completely new fire alarm system.

The kids now also have 82,000 square feet of new field space to play on, two new play structures, three new shade structures and a



PUSD

Lydiksen Elementary principal Jacob Berg cuts the commemorative ribbon in front of the school's newly rebuilt administration office on Dec. 8.

kids club that has been doubled in size.

Apart from that, Gannon said that the drop-off lane has been extended by 700 feet.

"The facilities team is working on

refurbishing one of the classroom buildings and finishing up some landscaping at the front of the school — 100% project completion should be in the next few months," Gannon said. ■

LPC's Whalen named new president of Foothill College

Set to take over role on Peninsula at end of March

BY ZOE MORGAN / PALO ALTO WEEKLY

Foothill College in Los Altos Hills has tapped Kristina Whalen — currently the vice president of academic services at Las Positas College — to be its next leader after more than a year without a permanent president.



Kristina Whalen

The Foothill-De Anza Community College District's Board of Trustees voted unanimously at a meeting on Jan. 9 to select Whalen to lead Foothill. District Chancellor Judy Miner recommended Whalen to the board from a pool of three finalists. Whalen is set to start work at the end of March.

In her role at Las Positas in Livermore, Whalen oversees all instructional programs, according

to a press release from Foothill. She is also the vice president of the California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers Association.

Whalen will take over from Interim President Bernadine Chuck Fong, who has been running the community college since the board removed former president Thuy Nguyen in October 2021.

Prior to Las Positas, Whalen worked from 2005 to 2019 at City College of San Francisco, ultimately serving as associate vice chancellor of instruction, enrollment management and instructional support services. Her undergraduate degree was in sociopolitical communication at Missouri State University. She has a master's in rhetoric and public address from Florida State University, where she then received her doctorate in speech communication.

Citing Whalen's current full-time employment at Las Positas, a

Foothill College spokesperson said that her availability was currently limited. She wasn't made available for an interview before this news organization's deadline.

At last week's board meeting,

Whalen told the trustees that she and her family were excited for her to start her new job. In coming to Foothill College, Whalen said that she is motivated by working to close the opportunity gap,

according to Foothill's release.

"I feel a profound connection to the college's recognition that many students, even in pockets of affluence and innovation, do not easily

See WHALEN on Page 8

VIOLINS OF HOPE

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Dublin council amends citywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Goals include enhancing safety, accessibility and infrastructure

By NICOLE GONZALES

The Dublin City Council approved updates to the city's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan earlier this month to further efforts to enhance safety, accessibility and infrastructure.

The revised plan, which amends the city's original document from 2014, features a series of projects to form an updated walking and biking network for the city and its residents.

Most of the projects are

expected to roll out in a total of three tiers, each including a set of individual tasks.

Tier I will see progress on high-priority projects that have secured funding, followed by high-priority projects with uncertain funding in Tier II and lower-priority projects in tier III.

The plan received unanimous approval from the council following a public hearing on Jan. 10.

Councilmember Kashef Qaadri

proposed a long-term evaluation of the bike and pedestrian plan.

"These bike plans take a while to assemble and review," Qaadri said. "It'd be great to have a two-year check-in, getting an update on the progress and perhaps reassess where we are with those."

Other members of the council, such as Mayor Melissa Hernandez, echoed this sentiment.

"I would like for the meetings to start taking place and to see this continuing," Hernandez

said. "It's useful as we are going to keep adding to this comprehensive plan that we keep that communication in place."

A staff report issued by City Manager Linda Smith detailed fiscal impacts of the proposed set of guidelines.

According to the financial section of the report, costs of implementing the plan, including consultants, staffing and construction, had been included in the capital improvement program

(2022 to 2027). Through the CIP, Dublin received funds from the Transportation Development Act Article III to carry out necessary projects.

Research for the plan has involved data collection on traffic, collisions and infrastructure throughout Dublin.

The plan will serve as a foundation for the city's pedestrian policy and infrastructure systems for decades to come. Additional information is set to be released from city officials as projects move forward.

More details about the new Dublin plan, as well as bike and pedestrian resources, can be found at Dublin.ca.gov/Bike-Pedestrian-Programs. ■

WHALEN

Continued from Page 7

experience socio-economic mobility," Whalen said in the release.

Whalen was one of three

finalists selected by a committee of administrators, faculty, staff and students who conducted a national search. The other two finalists were Gregory Anderson and Lisa Cooper Wilkins.

In her new role, Whalen will be paid \$20,796.57 per month, for a total annual salary of roughly \$250,000, according to her employment contract. The contract runs from March 31 through June 30, 2024, with the option for the board to renew it. Whalen will also receive additional payment to cover costs for her automobile, cellphone and "in-county business-related activities," the contract states.

In the last two years, Foothill College has experienced upheaval in its leadership. The district's board voted unanimously to not renew former president Nguyen's contract at an October 2021 meeting, following a no confidence vote by the academic senate. Nguyen was put on academic leave for the remainder of that school year.

The decision caused controversy with some saying Nguyen's ouster represented institutional

bias in removing a leader of color who had focused on racial equity work, while others said that she ignored input from faculty members and lacked necessary leadership skills. Nguyen asked to be reinstated in April 2022, but the board declined to take action.

When Nguyen was placed on leave, Fong came out of retirement to serve as interim president. She previously led Foothill from 1994 until 2006. ■

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WEEKENDS

Continued from Page 5

COVID pandemic in 2020.

The weekly program was then rebranded in 2022 to a monthly program with special Saturday activities and programs.

But according to Adamos, the association recently conducted a survey in November and December where 58 businesses, retail stores and restaurants downtown all weighed in on the conversation of continuing the program and to what extent.

In the survey, most of the respondents supported keeping the program as it was last year, there were a few issues that came up such as certain retailers or stores saying they did not benefit from the road closures — especially this last year during the holiday season.

"When we went through the discussion, the weather was definitely a problem for the retailers because the street closures didn't allow a car to pull up in front of their store to pick up their packages and so forth," said Bridget Karl, executive director of the PDA.

Karl, who was just hired in November, also clarified that the weather factor was one of the main factors that led to the shortened time frame for the weekend program.

The new schedule ending the road closures in October will now account for not just the bad

weather that usually comes after the summer months, but it will also account for the retail businesses that benefit from open roads during the holiday season, according to city officials.

"The (new) season would be intended to build on the community enjoyment of the pedestrian experience, provide equitable balance among diverse downtown businesses, support the restaurants during favorable weather months and support retailers during the robust holiday season," Adamos said.

Other issues that Adamos noted during those discussions were the traffic that piled up due to the fact Amador Village High School classes end around the same time city staff begin closing roads on Fridays.

But the overall consensus from the survey, according to Karl and Adamos, was that the stakeholders in the downtown area all support the now modified program schedule.

Along with the revised schedule, which was adopted with a 4-0 vote on Tuesday, the council also approved the estimated city expenses. Mayor Karla Brown was absent from the meeting.

Expenses include renting the road barricades, Operations Services Department staff overtime and overall garbage removal services — which, according to assistant city manager Pamela Ott, is much-needed for the litter filled street after those weekends.

The street closures would

generate direct expenses of approximately \$54,000 to the city for the six weekends scheduled this year.

But instead of renting the barricades, Councilmember Julie Testa asked why the city couldn't just buy them in order to save money — given that street closures will most likely continue to be part of Pleasanton's future — to which Ott answered by saying it was cheaper renting.

Apart from asking staff to do some sort of cost analysis to see if that is true, Testa also asked about improving the signage on the barricades as she said retailers have come to her stating customers had trouble navigating the closed streets.

While Ott said that while the city is trying to work on creating some nicer looking banners to go on the actual barricades, the issue came up last year and the city has added additional signs on where customers can find parking since then.

Karl added that the downtown association is also working on developing a map of where people can park and their distance from retailers.

The program will continue to take place every first weekend of the month from May to October, with the exception of September due to Amador's centennial anniversary celebration. Main Street will instead be closed on the weekend of Sept. 15 to align with the activities planned for that celebration. ■

BART lays out strategy to address homelessness in coming years

Forming a new nonprofit among ideas on the table

BART hopes to increase its efforts to connect homeless and unhoused riders with social services by 5% over the next three years, the transit agency's point person on addressing homelessness said last week.

Daniel Cooperman, BART's senior manager of social services, and officials from the agency's police force outlined BART's Strategic Homeless Action Plan to the agency's Board of Directors on Jan. 12.

The action plan, according to Cooperman, will guide the agency through 2026 as it seeks to help unhoused riders access social services

while ensuring that all riders feel respected and safe while riding BART.

BART has already made attempts to make its handling of some unhoused riders who may be disruptive more progressive, including by dispatching non-lethal "ambassadors" and crisis intervention experts throughout the system.

The agency has also established partnerships with local social service providers in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco and San Mateo counties, helping some unhoused riders to access resources they may need.

"We have seen that the level of

investment we've made has shown positive improvements to the system," Cooperman said. "This increased outreach has led to meaningful engagement and we're continuing to progress towards the appropriate balance between engagement and enforcement."

Part of the action plan also includes an effort to expand BART's resources to address and assist homeless riders throughout the system.

That may include establishing a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Cooperman said, as BART is not eligible for state and federal funding support.

"This is sort of a workaround to allow BART to be eligible for some of this aid and county funding to address this issue," Cooperman said.

BART also intends to help assuage regional homelessness by building housing developments on some of the properties it owns, such as at the El Cerrito Plaza, North Berkeley, Ashby and Lake Merritt stations.

Ultimately the agency is still largely at the mercy of how local governments in the Bay Area transition residents-in-need toward social services and permanent housing.

That is compounded by the

region's population of unhoused residents increasing faster than residents are being housed. Several counties in the region saw increases in their homeless populations in 2022.

"We don't have control over some of the governmental situations that are happening out there with this problem at a crisis level," Board Director Bevan Dufty said.

He added, "I think we've demonstrated our commitment to doing things differently, and I think that we're setting a good example." ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

Landslides strand ACE passengers

Similar incidents near Sunol on back-to-back mornings

Hundreds of passengers were stuck on an Altamont Corridor Express train Wednesday morning near Sunol in Alameda County because of a landslide, one day after a similar problem in the same area.

Train 1 was halted at 5:39 a.m. in between the Pleasanton and Fremont stations, according to David Lipari, a spokesman for ACE. The train remained stopped as of 7:30 a.m.

Train 3 was holding at Pleasanton

and buses were being activated as a replacement option.

Trains were canceled for the rest of Wednesday and buses were used only to get the stranded 223 passengers and three crew members to their destination. Buses were not offered as an alternative for canceled trains, so those who continued to their destination had to consider arranging return transportation, according to Lipari.

Lipari said Train 3 would be used

to pull cars from the train back to Pleasanton and eventually continue to its destination of Stockton, making all eastbound stops.

It comes a day after 225 ACE passengers were stranded in the same area near Sunol because of another landslide. That delay affected a westbound train heading toward Pleasanton at 8:40 a.m. It did not cause a derailment and no injuries were reported in either incident. ■

—Thomas Hughes, BCN Foundation



ACFD
Landslide stalls ACE train near Sunol on Tuesday morning. A similar problem would occur the next day too.

Tri-Valley residents perform in 'Seussical the Musical'

Play staged at Cal State East Bay for next two weekends

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Get ready to see some of your Tri-Valley friends and neighbors dress up as several notable Dr. Seuss characters in the upcoming Royal Theater Academy production of "Seussical the Musical".

The musical extravaganza features some of the famous author's most notable characters as the Cat in the Hat tells the story of Horton the Elephant discovering a speck of dust that contains the Who's, including Jojo, a Who child sent off to military school for thinking too much.

Royal Theater Academy artistic director Trenton Torain, told the Weekly that families of all ages from all over Pleasanton and Dublin will be featured in the production — he said roughly 30 of them are specifically from Pleasanton.

"The rehearsals are a way for all participants young and old to escape the craziness of the outside world," Torain said. "The families involved both performing in the play but also the families who are involved with set builds and other aspects of this five-month journey each new production brings all of us closer together and builds a tight knit community."

The Royal Theater Academy,

which is located in Livermore, is a family-based community educational theater program "dedicated to providing a safe, loving environment for students of all ages, to grow their passion, love and skill for the performing arts," according to its website.

Torain said that the over 60 actors and their families are excited to share with the community the result of five months of rehearsals.

"(The) Royal Theater Academy production of 'Seussical the Musical' is filled with colorful characters both from the Jungle of Nool and

Whoville, a great cast of actors and singers and dancers that will most surely bring a smile to everybody who watches," Torain said.

The show will take place at the California State University, East Bay for the next two weekends starting this Saturday (Jan. 21) at 2 p.m. with a second showing featuring the second cast at 7 p.m.

After the 2 p.m. showing on Sunday, the next scheduled shows will be the following Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and that Sunday at 2 p.m., which will be the last show. ■

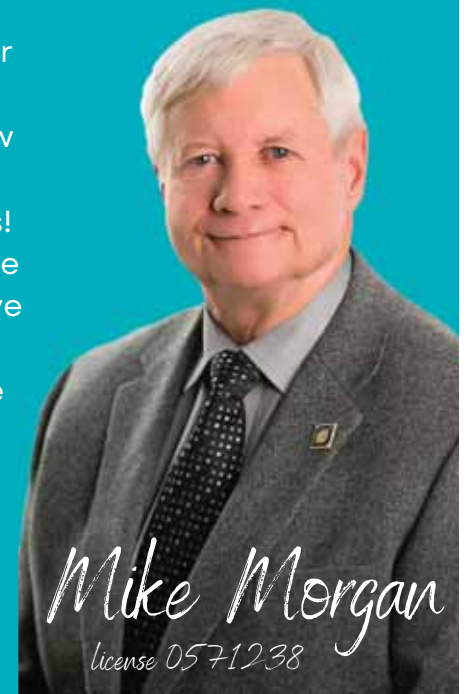


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Cast members of the upcoming Royal Theater Academy production of "Seussical the Musical" pose for a photo after rehearsal.

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Lawmakers concerned Newsom's budget will delay climate, transportation projects

Governor pushes leaner proposal amid anticipated revenue gap

BY GENNADY SHEYNER /
PALO ALTO WEEKLY

Bay Area lawmakers raised concerns last week about a proposal by Gov. Gavin Newsom to cut nearly \$22.5 billion from the state budget, a move that they say could delay or imperil critical transportation and climate change programs.

In seeking to close a projected budget gap, Newsom presented a

leaner budget Jan. 10 that contrasts markedly with recent years of economic expansion and increased spending. The budget cites continued high inflation, interest rate increases by federal reserve banks and stock market declines as reasons for the proposed reductions.

"This last risk is particularly important to California, as market-based compensation — including

stock options and bonus payments — greatly influences the incomes of high-income Californians. Combined with a progressive income tax structure, this can have an outsized effect, both good and bad, on state revenues," the budget states.

By proposing cuts, Newsom is seeking to avoid dipping into the state's budget reserve. Instead, he is opting to delay some projects and nix others. The \$297 billion budget proposes saving \$7.4 billion by spreading out costs for certain projects that were set to receive funding in the coming year multiple years.

It would cut \$5.7 billion from several planned programs, including a \$3 billion to help the state address future inflation. It would also place numerous items in a "trigger" category, which conditions their funding on sufficient revenue being available later this year.

The "trigger" items, which total \$3.9 billion, largely focus on climate and transportation programs, which together account for \$3.1 billion in this category. Altogether, the proposed budget includes \$48 billion for advancing the state's climate change goals, down from \$54 billion in each of the last two budgets. This includes cutting \$2.5 billion from a program that promotes conversion to zero-emission vehicles, though about \$1.4 billion of this cut will be offset by shifts from cap-and-trade funds, according to the budget.

Funding for rail improvements will also be reduced in the 2023-2024 budget, with Newsom proposing to cut transportation spending in the general fund by \$2.7 billion from 2022 levels.

The budget proposes investing \$11.6 billion in transportation programs, down from \$13.8 billion in 2022 (the reduction is partially offset by \$500 million in additional funding from state transportation funds). Whereas Newsom had previously planned to spend \$2 billion this year and \$2 billion in 2024 on rail improvements, the new budget reduces the allocation to \$1 billion and \$500,000 in the two years, respectively.

The budget also proposes a delay of \$350 million in funding for grade separation, the redesign of rail crossings so that train tracks would not intersect with roads. That money, initially slated to be available in 2023-24, was pushed to 2025-26.

"Given the multi-year nature of these types of projects, this shift should not significantly impact the ability to deliver the same number of originally planned projects that improve safety for people walking, biking, and driving at rail



MAGALI GAUTHIER

Gov. Gavin Newsom discusses the state's zero emission and climate goals at a news conference in the parking lot outside of the Ford Greenfield Labs in Palo Alto last year.

crossings," the budget states.

The budget proposal elicited a mixed response from Bay Area lawmakers, with some lauding Newsom for maintaining most of the funding in areas such as drought resilience, flood control and fire prevention and others criticizing him for failing to make larger investments in areas like public transportation.

State Sen. Josh Becker, who chairs the Senate Budget Committee's Subcommittee on Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy, said the proposed cuts and delays are "concerning at a time when we should be accelerating our work, not tapping the brake pedal."

Though he said he was pleased to see the budget maintain about 90% of the funding for these programs, relative to past budgets, he raised concerns about some of the specific budget reduction, including a proposed \$550 million cut from programs to make the coastline more resilient. This includes elimination of the San Francisco Wetlands Support program and a \$175 million reduction to the state's coastal protection and adaptation program.

"I am concerned about some of these cuts and delays," Becker (D-San Mateo) said. "Fortunately, in my new positions as chair of the budget subcommittee I will work on keeping the climate change agenda moving forward."

Becker also said he was pleased that the proposed budget generally protects his other key priorities, including an increase on per-pupil funding in K-12 education, investment in a universal preschool program and \$30 million for the University of California system to offset the costs of replacing 902 spots for nonresident undergraduate students at three campuses with an equivalent number of California residents.

"We were able to generally protect our priorities," he said.

Assemblymember Marc Berman (D-Menlo Park) lauded the

proposed budget for maintaining funding for addressing homelessness, including \$3 billion for Project Homekey, which funds construction of transitional housing and conversion of hotels to support unhoused individuals.

"With additional funding we can continue to support our neighbors experiencing homelessness and transition them into permanent stable housing," Berman said in a statement.

He also said he was grateful that the budget increases funding for levees and other flood-protections efforts, investments that he called "timely and essential as my constituents face the reality of more devastating storms on the horizon while they are still recovering from the damage of the last ten days." The budget proposes adding \$135.5 million over the next two years to support agencies by local agencies on urban flood risk.

"Unpredictable and extreme weather is only going to become more commonplace and California must do more to protect our residents and our communities," Berman said in a statement.

Newsom's proposal to cut funding for transportation elicited a sharp rebuke from State Sen. Scott Wiener, who noted in a statement that public transportation systems are reeling from lower ridership as a result of the pandemic.

The state, he said in a statement, "must not let our public transportation systems go over the impending fiscal cliff and enter a death spiral — where budget shortfalls lead to service cuts that lead to ridership drops that lead to further budget shortfalls and service cuts."

"Unfortunately, the Governor's proposed budget does not address the transit fiscal cliff; instead it cuts and defers transit capital funds, which will make it even harder for these systems to meet future needs, including California's climate goals," Wiener (D-San Francisco) said in a statement. ■

Lucas Allen Emmett

December 13, 1994 – January 2, 2023

The world lost a bright and shining light. Lucas Emmett aka "The Director Luke" entered God's Eternal Kingdom far too young, at the age of 28.

Luke suddenly and unexpectedly passed on the second day of this year 2023.

Luke grew up in Pleasanton, CA. He graduated Foothill High School in 2013 where he became interested in, and studied photography and videography. After high school he furthered his photography and videography skills and education at San Diego Mesa College.

Luke is survived by his mother Marilou, his father Roger [Geoff], his siblings Amy [Chris], Sara [Chris], Katie [Chloe] and Aunt Tami [Glenn], Uncle George [Jeanne], Uncle Craig [Donna] and many other loving extended family members.

Luke loved his dogs Emma and Roman. They are being well cared for by Luke's family.

Luke traveled the world extensively. He loved seeing new places, experiencing new cultures and making new acquaintances and friends. He simply loved people and got so much joy from all of his travels. He visited more than 30 countries and shared wonderful stories of laughter, excitement, experiences, culture, new foods and friends from each of the places he visited.

At his core Luke was an entrepreneur. The Director Luke was a well known and successful director and producer of music videos. He worked with many prominent artists throughout the USA, and his work will be immortalized forever.

Luke had a deep connection with Jesus Christ. He named his brand: "The Good News".

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the ASPCA or a charity of your choice.

If you'd like to send remembrances, photos or videos, please visit <https://www.forevermissed.com/lucas-allen-emmett>

This obituary will end with Luke's own words.

"To Do: Major Moovez

Receive: FOREVER ABUNDANCE.

LOVE, FREEDOM & PEACE. Only Comes

With Full Trust in: YAWEH.

Forever GRATEFUL

– THE GOOD NEWS –

GOD'S Free will.... The Always Gift –

Unconditional Love + Forgiveness!

NO FEARS. NO DOUBTS.

I am exactly where I need to be.

This will not be easy.

But I am ready to do more of the "little stuff"

Focus on my decisions.

POSITIVE MINDSET ONLY."

PAID OBITUARY



POLICE BULLETIN

Serial killer pleads guilty to 1973 murder at Stanford

A man convicted of two sexually motivated murders of young women pleaded guilty last week to the 1973 murder of Leslie Marie Perlov, a 21-year-old law librarian, on Stanford University land, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office said.

John Arthur Getreu, 78, formerly of Hayward, was charged in 2018 with Perlov's Feb. 13, 1973 murder after district attorney criminalists matched DNA to Getreu found under Perlov's fingernails.

Perlov's body was found in the hills overlooking the Stanford University campus in an open space area between Page Mill Road and Junipero Serra Boulevard. A floral scarf was found tightly knotted around her neck and had been used as a ligature to strangle her to death, the DA's Office said.

Getreu, a serial killer, was also charged in the cold case murder of 21-year-old Janet Ann Taylor of La Honda. Taylor was the daughter of Chuck Taylor, the university's football coach and athletic director. She was found strangled in a ditch in 1974.

A San Mateo County jury convicted Getreu for Taylor's murder in 2021. Getreu was sentenced to life in prison in November 2021.

Getreu lived near Stanford and worked as a Stanford Hospital cardiology technician at the time.

The murders remained mysteries until advances in DNA technology and familial genetic databases made a match possible. Although Getreu was previously convicted of murder in a similar crime in Germany in the early 1960s, he was not in any digital database due to the age of the case and its overseas location, according to law enforcement officials.

"Justice for Leslie Perlov and her loved ones took a very long time, but it has arrived. This serial rapist and murderer will spend the rest of his life in prison," Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen said in a statement on Jan. 10.

Diane Perlov, sister of Leslie Perlov, said she and her brother, Craig, were in the courtroom when Getreu pleaded guilty by video. Getreu never indicated any remorse, but she was not expecting it.

"Remorse is not a part of it, and everyone told me don't expect that. It was never going to happen," she said. But there's no excuse for his crimes, she added.

Diane Perlov feels a limited sense of closure. "There's justice without peace; there's no peace for something like this. The least I can expect is justice and that's what we got. In court, it's very procedural and cold and clinical. That part was hard. Leslie was there for me and I wanted her name to be read and wanted her to

be recognized," she said.

Even after he is sentenced to life in prison on April 26, Getreu might still be freed after a relatively short stint in prison, she said.

Prosecutor Michel Amaral said that under state law, Getreu is sentenced in accordance with the sentencing guidelines that were in place in 1973. That means that despite a life sentence, he is eligible for parole in seven years from the date of his arrest. Whatever time he has served is counted toward his sentence. Getreu, who was arrested in 2018 for Perlov's murder, would have four years already toward his first eligibility for parole, he said.

Diane Perlov plans to speak at Getreu's sentencing and wants to make sure that her impact statement will be read into the record for future courts and parole boards to consider.

"Justice is blind and justice is cold, and it should be. That's hard for the victim's family in a way," she said. But the passion for justice by law enforcement, investigators and prosecutors "was really nice to see," she said.

She said Getreu's guilty plea "was a victory," particularly in light of the many lives he has damaged and destroyed. He got off with a light sentence for raping the Palo Alto teen and with a light sentence in Germany. "He felt he could do whatever he wanted," she said. ■

—Sue Dremann, Palo Alto Weekly

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Jan. 11

Warrant arrest

■ 11:20 a.m. on the 9100 block of Olson Court

Burglary

■ 11:38 a.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

Theft from auto

■ 2:07 p.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

■ 2:14 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

■ 9:32 p.m. on the 2300 block of Redberry Court

Jan. 10

Vandalism

■ 6:34 a.m. on the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

■ 7:26 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

■ 8:24 a.m., 1300 block of Brookline Loop; auto theft

■ 5:42 p.m., 6800 block of Koll Center Parkway; auto theft

■ 9:53 p.m., 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

Burglary

■ 8:46 a.m. on the 000 block of Vintage Circle

Jan. 9

Theft

■ 8:03 a.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

■ 10:08 a.m., 400 block of Boulder Court; catalytic converter theft

POLICE REPORT

■ 11:40 a.m., 2000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 3:47 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; stolen property

■ 4:06 p.m., 2900 block of Hopyard Road; bicycle theft

Vandalism

■ 11:22 a.m. on the 7000 block of Tia Quito

Warrant arrest

■ 12:14 p.m. at Valley Avenue and Hopyard Road

Jan. 8

DUI

■ 1:40 a.m. at Stoneridge Drive and West Las Positas Boulevard

Domestic battery

■ 4:43 a.m. on Gibraltar Drive

Fire

■ 10:02 a.m. on the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Shoplifting

■ 11:27 a.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Jan. 7

Fire

■ 3:08 a.m. on the 5700 block of Owens Drive

Weapons violation

■ 5:44 a.m. on the 4000 block of Pimlico Drive

Theft

■ 8:19 a.m., 5000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto

■ 1:58 p.m., 5300 block of Hopyard Road; theft from auto

■ 6:30 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

■ 1:14 p.m. on the 7000 block of Commerce Circle

■ 5:22 p.m. on the 4100 block of Alba Court

Burglary

■ 1:47 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

■ 5:51 p.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Drug violation

■ 3:46 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Jan. 6

Graffiti offense

■ 9:58 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Fraud

■ 11:12 a.m. on the 5200 block Case Avenue

Donald (Don) Robert Provan

April 5, 1956 – December 26, 2022

40-year Pleasanton resident

Don Provan, age 66, died unexpectedly of a sudden cardiac arrest on December 26, 2022 at home in Pleasanton, CA.

Don developed networking software for his whole career. In 1982 he met his wife, Jan, while they developed the core Internet protocols (TCP/IP). After getting married in 1984, they commemorated their shared love for computing by naming their children after the protocols they worked on together, TCP/IP, Tara Calleigh Provan, and Ian Provan.

While his children were growing up Don loved playing computer games with them. His other passion was geocaching. After discovering it, Don pursued geocaching avidly. He found over 10,000 caches in 18 countries. His favorites were puzzle caches, making two and solving thousands. He also supported Jan in raising 19 puppies for Guide Dogs for the Blind and collected frog themed art that is displayed throughout their home.

Don was born in Washington, DC to Marcia and John Provan. He grew up in Alexandria, VA. He graduated from TC Williams High School where his love of music grew as a member of the marching band. He was passionate about the school's historic football championship, popularly depicted in Remember the Titans. He then went on to Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh where he continued to study music, recording 10 tracks with a jazz ensemble as he earned a BFA.

After college his computer programming career took off and led him to Jan and California. Despite moving cross country, he enjoyed seeing his family at regular family reunions, which became massive as he and his siblings had children. Don honored his father's memory by consistently completing the daily crossword.

He is survived by his wife, Jan; his daughter, Kriellya and her partner CJ; his son, Ian and his fiancée, Cristina; his sister, Carol and her husband Ralph; his brother, Scott and his wife Jane; his sister-in-law, Dana; nieces and nephews: Jonathan (Devon), Chris (Alison), Ben (Sarah), Lindsay (Charlie), Sydney (Kevin); and 9 grand nieces and nephews. Don was predeceased by his parents, John and Marcia; and his brother, Randy. He is missed by the family dogs, Anthony, Jackie, and Cobalt; as well as grand-dogs Moya, Garby, and Velma.

A Celebration of Life will be held in spring 2023. The Family requests that expressions of sympathy take the form of contributions in his memory to Guide Dogs for the Blind, www.guidedogs.com.

Have fun and go find or hide a geocache. Don would have encouraged us all.



Teresa Renee Sheehan

February 16, 1961 – January 7, 2023

Teresa Renee Sheehan passed away peacefully in her sleep, surrounded by her loved ones. She was raised in El Granada, California and graduated from Half Moon Bay High School in 1979. She loved the San Francisco Bay Area and spent her entire life here. Her hobbies included gardening, pottery, and movies. She loved basketball and often watched the Golden State Warriors.



She planned to retire next year, hoping to visit family and friends, relaxing by the poolside, reading her collection of books, and caring for her animals. She is predeceased by her parents Edward and Ruby. She is survived by her son Samuel, her brother Matthew, her niece Jacqueline, and her nephews Timothy, Mickey, and Garrett.

She's a loving, caring, and compassionate person, and we'll see her again soon.

"With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: 'Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his people. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.'" - Revelation 21:3,4

We will be arranging services soon to celebrate the life of Teresa. We will be reaching out to people, but anyone is welcome to reach out to us at 925-367-1580.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Cancer Society. She lost her mother and dog to cancer, and she hoped that somebody would find a cure someday.

PAID OBITUARY

PAID OBITUARY



TeaZenTea is coming soon to downtown Pleasanton with authentic boba teas, coffees, smoothies, slushes and more. Located at 624 Main Street.



Rubys & Roses will be opening at the former Pleasanton Hotel. The new venue will feature American cuisine with influences from Asia and Latin America. This restaurant will be offering a full bar with craft cocktails and classy old school drinks, with a focus on bringing an old-school vibe back to downtown Pleasanton at 855 Main Street.



Candy King is a fun, sweet shop for kids and adults of all ages. Featuring novelty sodas, candy toys, throwback nostalgia and international candies from around the world, including some familiar and some you haven't seen before. Located at 711 Main Street.



Partnering for

Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce
Advancing the economic well-being of the community



The Pleasanton Chamber's Ambassador committee, pictured at the January monthly meeting, serves the community as a whole.

Manzi named Ambassador of the Year



The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Ambassador group is a committee of representatives from various local organizations. The Ambassadors are instrumental in the Pleasanton Chamber's reputation as an engaging and successful organization. Throughout the year, they visit existing members and promote the benefits of membership. They also participate in cutting ceremonies celebrating local businesses as well as new openings. The Ambassadors also attend networking mixers. They are instrumental in introducing new members to the organization.

The Chamber is pleased to have Patty Manzi as the Ambassador of the Year 2022.

Ambassadors

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
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| Janet Berry.....Volunteer | Laurie Hubbard.....Office of |
| Alexa Bridge.....Bay Area Synergos Group at Morgan Stanley | Robert Johnson.....Strateg |
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| Courtney Coats.....Legal Shield/ID Shield | Freda Leonard.....Richer |
| Kim Damiani.....Summit Financial Group | Jeff Leuchi.....Proform |
| Shelley Despotakis.....Fidelity Title | Patty Manzi.....Action |
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| Kay Fogarty.....Real Protection, Inc. | Vesta Moody.....Bay Ho |
| Shelley Goldblum.....Boisset Collection- WinePro | Ken Norvell.....CMIT So |

The Chamber takes great pride in helping Pleasanton remain among the very best cities in the world. We provide a wide range of services and value for its member organizations whose financial support and engagement are essential to our success. Consumers are 80% more likely to purchase goods or services from a company that is a member of the Chamber and to learn more about the benefits of Chamber Membership, email Membership@pleasantonchamber.com

For success in 2023

Chamber of Commerce:
vitality of our community since 1946



NINA POMEROY PHOTOGRAPHY

Public relations arm of the Chamber. Ambassadors promote the Chamber to prospective members and the

ed Chamber Ambassador of the Year

of Commerce's Ambassador
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chambers in the Bay Area.
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They participate in ribbon
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ed to announce that Patty

Manzi of Action 1 Properties has been named the 2022 Ambassador of the Year. Patty has been an Ambassador and a consistent advocate for the Chamber since 2004. She rarely misses a meeting and is a regular at ribbon cuttings. No matter what volunteer duty is needed at events, she is willing to step up and do what it takes to make it a success. She recommends Chamber businesses when asked for referrals. Patty keeps coming back year after year with a smile on her face and a positive attitude. Patty is a California licensed Broker with Action 1 Properties, providing full-service real estate services, a Mortgage Loan Originator (MLO) with RocketPro, a Notary Public offering general notary services, and a certified Notary Signing Agent offering 'loan doc' signing services.

r Committee

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ership Director Dawn Wilson at dawn@pleasanton.org.



Locals
BARBERSHOP

Locals Barbershop originally started in 2017 in San Francisco. It is a place where all individuals can come in, share experiences, and have an amazing service provided by professional individuals wanting to share their craft. All walks of life are welcome in our well energized, personalized, and traditional barbershop atmosphere. Welcome to Locals Barbershop at 350 Main Street.



Dragon City is a purveyor of fusion Chinese dining from the esteemed Chef Hong Zhao Lin, conveniently located at 824 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton.

Oasis

Oasis Wine Lounge is downtown Pleasanton's exotic dining destination. Established in 2005 by Sadaf Shaghasi and Omar Etemadi as their first restaurant in town, the cuisine is Mediterranean with touches of Persian flavors. Located at 780 Main Street.





A LEGACY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND DANCE

Tri-Valley performing arts school taking to stages across Bay Area for Lunar New Year

By NICOLE GONZALES



Top: Dancers ages 9-12 of the Xiaopei Chinese Dance school perform “New Leaves and Blossoms” at the We Shine competition in December 2022. (Photo by Yongmei Xu Photography/Courtesy Xiaopei Chinese Dance). **Above:** Xiaopei Gelb and student Eve Ussery at We Shine last month. (Photo courtesy Xiaopei Chinese Dance).

Across the region, one performing arts group has continued to wow audiences and educate local viewers on various art forms from throughout China’s history.

In a rehearsed and intricate manner, the group of students takes to stages in bright and colorful attire to showcase Chinese culture and dance — this is often the scene created by Xiaopei He Gelb and her dance school pupils.

Founded in 2009, Xiaopei Chinese Dance would be the first to specialize in Chinese dance in the Tri-Valley. Since then, the school has gone on to teach thousands of students in the area with group and solo classes, from ages 4 to adulthood.

This year, the school has already planned several major performances around the Tri-Valley and greater Bay Area. For starters, shows at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, San Ramon City Center and the East Bay Lunar Gala in Pleasanton are coming up soon among Chinese New Year celebrations.

“Over the past 14 years, I have made so many friends in the area, and have enjoyed so much watching my students grow and blossom,” Xiaopei said. “I have met so many nice people who enjoyed our performances, and I believe they learned from our shows to appreciate more about Chinese culture.”

“Learning new dances, performing together and making new memories brings me so much joy.”

Samantha Seiter,
Dance student

The legacy of Xiaopei Chinese Dance began in 2003 when Xiaopei met Andrew Gelb. The two were engaged by 2004 and married in 2005. At the time, Xiaopei had achieved massive success with dancing in her home country of China.

After moving to the Tri-Valley, Xiaopei had become well known by the local Chinese community for her status as a dancer. She recalls how members of the community advocated for her to open a dance studio where their children could learn from her.

“My goals were to share what I had learned from my professional career dancing and performing in China and around the world by teaching authentic, high-quality dance, and

by bringing colorful and beautiful Chinese dance performances to the community,” she said. “I was able to fill a need and provide what the local community told me they wanted. It gave me the opportunity to share my love for Chinese dance.”

In March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school turned to online classes which Xiaopei taught via Zoom. Then, the decision was made to close the Pleasanton studio at the end of 2020.

“It of course was not the same as teaching in-person, but the classes were well-received by our students, from children to adults, and by the parents of the students,” she recalled.

When in-person classes became an option again, in 2021, Xiaopei Chinese Dance opened a new location in



YINGJUN PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY XIAOPEI CHINESE DANCE

Xiaopei Chinese Dance students age 5-8 perform the "Realm of Dreams" dance.

Dublin, very convenient for students who come primarily from Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, Livermore, Castro Valley, Danville and San Leandro.

The students receive not only professional dance training, but acquire lifelong friendships and an appreciation for Chinese culture.

Jenida Yang began at the Xiaopei Chinese Dance school when she was 4 years old. Now 15, Yang discussed the experience of being with the company for so long and how it has changed her.

"My first Dunhuang solo was the turning point for me in my dancing journey. I won my first memorable awards with it, and ever since I've always loved the style and its exotic expression," Yang said. "After so many years of experience, I now

understand dance much more and have the capability to bring out greater meaning from it."

"My favorite part about being with my dance group is training, taking classes, competing, and performing with all my classmates and teachers. I hold them very close to my heart; they are almost like my second family," Yang added.

Through dancing, Xiaopei has helped develop a bond between all those who enter the school.

"We all feel like family," 15-year-old Samantha Seiter said. She also first joined when she was just 4.

"Everyone is always supportive of each other and working hard to improve. Learning new dances, performing together, and making new memories brings me so much joy," she added.

Other students, such as Eve Ussery, started out with different types of dance.

"I first tried ballet and tap dancing, but I didn't like to tiptoe dance or the loud shoes of tap," Ussery recalled. "I switched to Chinese dance and loved the elegant music, bright colors and hand and body control."

First joining at 5 years old, the now 11 Ussery has made lifelong connections through her dance team.

"I have made many friends through dance that will be my friends for many years," Ussery said. "Together with my team we work with the teachers to make beautiful dances and perform in exciting shows. I couldn't ask for anything more."

Student Kelly Ma spoke about the significance of the dance company's cultural performance art. The 11-year-old described the Xiaopei Chinese Dance school learning environment as amazing, productive and welcoming.

"Ever since I was young, I believed that Chinese dance was very special and unique," Ma said. "It feels special to me and makes me feel like I'm in my own world while performing."

Out of all the dance styles in her skillset, including Russian ballet, Chinese classical and Chinese folk dance, Xiaopei said she does not have a favorite.

"Many of the provinces in China have their unique styles of dance and costumes and I actually love all of them," she said.

Since its opening, Xiaopei Chinese Dance has had the goal of entertaining the public while also educating and promoting the appreciation of various cultures. The school has since gone on to inspire generations of dancers and performances.

"I am often asked 'what is Chinese dance?' and the best way I know to answer that question is to show them," Xiaopei said.



Top: Jenida Yang poses in her "Chance the Moon" attire. (Photo courtesy Xiaopei Chinese Dance). **Above:** Students in the 8-12 age group perform their "Blooming Fans" dance at the We Shine competition. (Photo by Yongmei Xu Photography; courtesy Xiaopei Chinese Dance).



COURTESY XIAOPEI CHINESE DANCE

Xiaopei Gelb, owner and founder of Xiaopei Chinese Dance now based in Dublin, joins student Jenida Yang in a performance pose.

"Through my school, I get to watch my students dance better and with more confidence as they progress semester to semester and year to year."

Andrew Gelb, who helped to open the dance studio, shares the same pride and fulfillment as his wife.

"Seeing her with her students, especially the little ones and the teenagers, just fills my heart," Andrew said. "She is so happy teaching and encouraging and the way the kids respond to her is really something to see."

"I have watched my wife devote herself to thousands of students and their parents so that the students grow and mature and become talented and confident dancers and performers, and have fun," he added.

Looking toward the future, the Gelbs hope their community and dance school continues to grow.

"I have watched many of my students win awards at dance competitions all over the Bay Area, even after the younger ones

grow up and go on to college and beyond," Xiaopei said.

"I see them become dance team members and leaders wherever they go and it makes me so happy when they continue to share what they learned," she added.

The Xiaopei Chinese Dance will be performing at Chinese New Year events across the region.

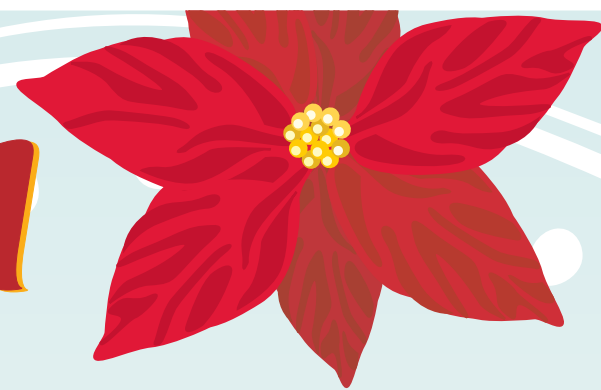
This Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the group will dance at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore as part of the venue's free Lunar New Year celebration.

The following day, Sunday (Jan. 22) from 2-4 p.m., the school will take part in another Lunar New Year celebration at the City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon.

Then, as part of the 5th East Bay Lunar New Year Gala, students will showcase their skills at the Pleasanton Crosspoint Church next Sunday (Jan. 29) at 7 p.m.

To learn more about these and other Xiaopei Chinese Dance performances coming up, visit Xpdance.com. ■

Holiday Fund



Thank you to our generous donors

Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Three Valleys Community Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

2022-23 Holiday Fund Donors

As of January 17th, 244 donors have contributed \$64,950 to the Holiday Fund.

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Encore Players to present ancient Greek play 'Lysistrata'

Production places emphasis on senior performers



ENCORE PLAYERS

Cast members of "Lysistrata" stand together in their rehearsal space. The Encore Players production opens at the Bothwell Arts Center on Jan. 28.

By NICOLE GONZALES

The Livermore performing arts group Encore Players is set to put on an ancient Greek classic with a striking message.

For the first show of 2023, they are presenting "Lysistrata" based on the Greek play by Aristophanes and adapted by San Francisco playwright Will Huddleston.

The story follows Lysistrata, a woman of Athens, who becomes tired of the constant wars in Greece and the surrounding regions. She then devises a plan to unite the women of Greece in protest of the ongoing conflicts: They agree to withhold sex from the men of the nation until a peace treaty is reached.

Martie Muldoon, longtime member of Encore Players, spoke about the play's thematic significance.

"This play highlights the fact that those who are marginalized still hold power, and can use their strengths to better the world," Muldoon said. "Also, that sex is hilarious."

"I love that women take control of the men by taking control of their bodies, and that the men realize if they want peace at home, it will lead to peace between factions," added Muldoon, who is not only a producer of the "Lysistrata" show but acts in it as well.

Initially founded in 2014, Encore Players maintains the goal of providing a more inclusive theater community. While they accept performers from all demographics, Encore Players focuses on including senior performers and creatives.

"Encore has grown to include actors of all ages, but the mission is to choose works that give senior actors

more opportunities," Muldoon told the Weekly. "We feel it's important for all of us, as we age, to stay active in the arts. Encore is dedicated to that goal."

Muldoon discussed how the company strives for inclusivity beyond just their productions.

"In addition to our main stage productions usually twice a year, we also partner with the library to produce informative and fun programs, which don't need to be memorized or rehearsed as much," Muldoon said.

The partnership allows Encore Players to create roles for those who aren't comfortable memorizing, have limited mobility or otherwise aren't comfortable performing in a fully staged production.

Director of the play, Diann McCannon, hopes audiences are not only entertained but thought provoked by "Lysistrata".

"War is bad; peace is always what we should strive for. Even though it's a comedy, that's the main thing that I wanted to get across," she said.

McCannon's background stems from performing, although she is an experienced play director. She explained that directing "Lysistrata" has been challenging due to the lack of older performers auditioning.

"We had a hard time casting and finding actors," McCannon said. "In Encore Players, even though they accept all ages, they really try to include senior actors in their productions. I would really like to see more senior actors get involved."

"It's important for this community to include senior actors," McCannon added. "I'm a senior citizen and for

me it's something that gives me a purpose or something to do, that brings fulfillment to my life."

McCannon also hopes viewers will walk away with a newfound appreciation for local arts.

"That's something that I really wanted to push, there's good community theater in the Tri-Valley and it needs to be supported," she said.

Newcomer Desty Shoemaker will step into her first role with Encore Players as the lead, Lysistrata.

"This is my first show with this great group of people," Shoemaker said. "I love community theater and am always looking for productions I can be part of that are within my geographics."

"Although it's a comedy, this play takes on some serious issues and shows that when people band together with a common purpose they can make positive change happen," Shoemaker said. "I hope audiences will have a few good laughs during the show and reflect afterward on how important it is to stand up for the things they believe in."

Due to the nature of the storyline, the theater company has recommended that viewer discretion be advised for anyone under the age of 16.

The company will be performing "Lysistrata" from Jan. 28 through Feb. 5 at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore, 2466 8th St. Afternoon shows will play Jan. 29 and Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. while evening shows are Jan. 28, Feb. 3 and Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or online for \$25. For more information, visit livermorearts.org. ■

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* Donor did not want to publish the amount of the gift.

The following agencies will benefit from the Holiday Fund:

Axis Community Health is the Tri-Valley's sole provider of medical and mental health services for individuals and families who have a low income or who are uninsured. It serves more than 15,000 members of our community.

CityServe of the Tri-Valley supports the community by caring for people in crisis, coordinating resources between the faith-based community, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and government agencies and connecting volunteers in the community to nonprofits.

Hope Hospice provides ethical hospice care, transition services for those not eligible for hospice, bereavement support for adults and children and end-of-life education to Tri-Valley families, regardless of insurance or income status.

Open Heart Kitchen is the largest hot meal program of its kind in the Tri -Valley feeding the hungry every weekday at multiple locations.

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) has provided critical supplemental funding to benefit all 14,500 students at all 15 Pleasanton public schools for more than 30 years with the mission to enhance learning experiences for students.

Sunflower Hill provides places and spaces where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) live, learn, work, and thrive in the greater community. The group develops residential communities and programming for individuals with I/DD.

Tri-Valley REACH, an acronym for Resources Education Activities Community and Housing for Special Adults of the Tri-Valley, provides safe, quality and affordable living environments where an adult with a developmental disability may live independently.

Valley Humane Society rescues and rehabilitates companion animals, champions responsible caretaking, shares pets' soothing affections with people in need of comfort, and supports and preserves existing pet-guardian relationships.

Opinion

LETTERS

It's crab season: Claws for a cause

As you may not know, crabs don't walk in a straight line; instead, they walk sideways swaying back and forth to make forward progress. It is how and where their legs are attached.

With crabbing season in full force, those legs have to work harder to escape the crabbers looking for them. Turns out those legs are very tasty, and if we can catch some of these dancing crabs, they will be served up at the second annual crab feast hosted by the Assistance League of Amador Valley.

Not to sideline the crabs, but they — and those of you who join us — are helping a bigger cause. This crab feast will raise funds for programs that help raise up others in our community.

Beneficiaries include Tri-Valley Haven, which receives food twice a week from our fundraising, Title I schools participating in back-to-school shopping for over 300 local children, and birthday bags for children in shelters/foster care. The generous nature of individuals

like you make it possible for us to help local people in need move in a forward direction.

Come join us on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Pleasanton Senior Center for a night of good food, good company and a good cause. It will be a fun evening with opportunities to win gift baskets, desserts, and dance the night away. Tickets are available until Jan. 20 at www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley.

—Anna Schaller, via Town Square

Record numbers attend Make A Difference Festival

Early last Saturday morning, exhibitors got drenched while unloading their cars, but by 10 a.m. when the festival opened, the rain stopped and the community came, resulting in the most successful Make A Difference Festival ever. The clicker showed 886 attendees, 400 shopping bags from the Community of Character were all passed out to the attendees.

Nonprofits reported that more people were volunteering than ever before. The Special Olympics booth had 80 people sign their sheets of those interested in helping at the coming basketball tournament. Sleep Heavenly Peace, who makes

beds for children had two pages of volunteers, it was their first time at the festival.

The senior center was crowded and noisy, but that just added to the excitement of the Festival as nonprofit leaders explained their volunteer opportunities to those who stopped by. The JustServe booth explained how to find service opportunities through JustServe.org.

There were opportunities to help seniors, the homeless, babies in need, those who have cancer, those with mental illnesses, even dogs and other animals, as well as recreational leagues, cultural arts and museums. The Emergency Preparedness section of the festival was busy also.

At the end of the day, nonprofit exhibitors were happy with numbers of new volunteers, those who came looking for ways to give back through community service were excited about their new opportunities and in these days of heavy rain and flooding, everyone could learn ways to protect their families.

Many thanks to sponsors of the festival: Accusplit: Make a Difference Programs, Community of Character Collaborative, Pleasanton Unified School District, city of Pleasanton, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Karlson-Lane.

—Ken Mano, via Town Square

The apology Livermore is owed

Now that the bruising, over-bloated and no-holds-barred mayoral and City Council race is concluded, and we've entered a new calendar year with new — and returning — members to these entities, Livermore is owed an apology by the very multi-headed organizations and people who have purported to "save Livermore," throughout the past three years.

Here's one suggestion on how this apology can take place: all the money spent — literally millions of dollars — on baseless and obstructionary lawsuits, candidate financial "profiles" that are abject lies and mistruths, disinformation published as free press and countless strawman narratives that are our own local version of Hillary Clinton's, "But, the emails..." should be doubly matched by these same people and organizations and given over to the city of Livermore for the acquisition and long-term management of conservation land.

Nothing else demonstrates a greater commitment to the city than by helping keep our lands and wildlife for the next generation and

those to follow. This is absolutely the saving that Livermore deserves, and the apology we are owed.

—Tracy Kronzak

Dems lie, cheat and steal

Now that the Twitter files have been made public, we all know about the collusion between the FBI, DNC and the Biden administration to suppress the truth about the Hunter Biden laptop. Twitter, Biden administration and Fauci also colluded to spread lies regarding COVID.

This is on top of Facebook, NY Times and CNN being part of this same collusion to kill democracy and spread lies about the success of the Biden administration. The truth is that Biden has caused the severe inflation and economic woes of America — overtaxation and regulations, the reduction of oil and natural gas production, the failed green energy policy, a southern border crisis and the reduction of all American's net wealth.

It is time for America to wake up and accept the truth and rid ourselves of the party that steals democracy and is ruining America.

—David Ott

The new House majority will threaten our rights

Last year, the American people rejected extreme election deniers in key races. But we were unable to win every fight and a tremendous threat to our democracy remains: new Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy and the MAGA extremists he leads.

According to the Washington Post, over 70% of all House Republicans are themselves election deniers — and these extremists now have McCarthy in the palm of their hands.

McCarthy had to give up tremendous concessions to appease the most outlandish members of his party to win the gavel. Extremists like Matt Gaetz, Lauren Boebert and Jim Jordan will have all the power they need to enact their agenda: sow chaos, waste taxpayer dollars on sham investigations, and ignore their constituents.

In their first act, Speaker McCarthy's MAGA majority gutted the nonpartisan Office of Congressional Ethics — hamstringing future investigations into corrupt members like the serial fabulist George Santos. That speaks volumes.

It's up to us to call out this new MAGA majority and fight back against their extreme agenda. I hope others will join me.

—Dexter Gonsalves

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee
Monday, January 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.
Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Please visit our website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

Committee on Energy and the Environment
Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.
Remillard Conference Room, 3333 Busch Rd.

- Receive Update on the Commissioner Handbook

City Council Special Meeting
Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the City Council Chamber – 200 Old Bernal Ave., via video/teleconference and will be broadcast live on Channel 29 and at <https://www.tri-valleytv.org> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>.

- Components of the Stoneridge Mall Framework
- The Environmental Impact Report and related documents for the 2023-2031, 6th Cycle Housing Element
- The 6th Cycle Housing Element and related General Plan Amendments
- Objective Design Standards for residential development

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

Send a Letter to the Editor to Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com or put your opinion on Town Square at PleasantonWeekly.com. Letters must be 250 words or less.

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Meet the new class of Amador Athletic Hall of Fame

Former coach Underwood, lacrosse star Gilbert, 2014 softball team among inductees

Five more members will be inducted into the Amador Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame next Thursday (Jan. 26) at halftime of the Amador basketball game.

The inductees are Eugene Vargas, Jackie Gilbert, Don Underwood, Bill Selway and the 2014 girls' softball team.

The AVHS Athletic Hall of Fame was started in 2021 and is set to be an annual fall induction ceremony at an Amador football game.

Since there was a change in the Amador Valley Boosters' board that delayed the selection process, this group will be the 2022 class, with the 2023 class to be inducted in the fall of this year.

As a 1979 Amador graduate, it is tremendous to see this taking place.

As I look back to the time I was growing up in Pleasanton, to my high school years, to the 35 years I have written about high school sports, I could come up with five inductees per year for probably 25 years! The pool is that deep and deserving.

Here is a more in-depth look at this year's group, with bios supplied by the Boosters' board.

Don Underwood: Underwood had a record of 484-233 over 25 years, winning 10 East Bay Athletic League titles in basketball. His teams also won four North Coast Section Championships and one NorCal Championship.

Underwood was enshrined into the Tri-Valley Hall of Fame in 1995 and earned East Bay Coach of the Year in 1993 and 1985.

Underwood retired with the most wins in the history of the EBAL.

Eugene Vargas: Vargas graduated from Amador in 1946, where he was known throughout the area as a dominating blocker and tackler on the football field.

Former coaches and players from the 1930s, '40s and '50s called him the best "pure" football player of the era.

Vargas earned a scholarship to play football for St. Mary's College in Moraga, where he also earned his undergraduate degree in chemistry. Het then joined the Army where he played for the Army Expedition team serving his country around the world.

When Vargas came back from the Army, he got his administrative credential from San Francisco State. He

returned to Pleasanton to teach and had a long tenure as an elementary school principal in the Pleasanton school district.

Jackie Gilbert: Gilbert played varsity lacrosse at Amador from 2012 to 2015. She earned many accolades as a high school player, including two-time captain, two-time team MVP, EBAL MVP and U.S. Lacrosse All-American.

Gilbert was the 2015 AVHS Female Athlete of the Year and led California in points scored during the lacrosse season.

Her skill set translated to travel lacrosse as well as she was the first lacrosse player west of Pennsylvania to have been selected for the USA Women's U19 National Team in 2015.

In college she played for USC and was awarded captain in her senior year, as well being part of the Pac-12 All-Conference First Team.

2014 softball: The team accumulated amazing stats for the season.

Amador Valley outscored its opponents 149-26 and posted a whopping 15 shutouts on the way to a perfect season. The team led 192 innings of the 198 innings played.

This was truly one of the best



FILE PHOTO

The undefeated 2014 Amador Valley softball team is among the new class of the school's Athletic Hall of Fame.

teams — boys' or girls' — the school has ever put out.

Bill Selway: A tremendous inductee in the "Community Service" division, Selway might as well be known as Mr. Amador throughout his tenure with the Amador Boosters Club.

He excelled at raising money for the athletic programs and facilities. Selway was the driving force behind the building of the Amador snack bar and restroom facilities at the football complex.

Selway passed away in April 2021, but his legacy will continue through his projects at Amador.

Foothill boys' soccer

The Falcons dropped three games last week but played inspired ball

throughout.

On Jan. 10, the team dropped a tough 3-1 loss to San Ramon Valley. Matthew Tahir got the lone goal of the game for Foothill.

Two days later the Falcons got a pair of goals from Anthony Bonev but fell 3-2 to Granada. Tahir had an assist on one of the goals.

The final game of the week saw Foothill drop a shootout to Dougherty Valley, falling 4-3.

Falcons' goalie Aiden Ahmad suffered a broken jaw during the game. Alejandro Ramirez, Elias Rousto and Bonev scored the goals. ■

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

Pac-12 studios coming to San Ramon

Production space opening in Bishop Ranch this summer

BY JEANITA LYMAN

San Ramon is set to be the new home of the production studios for the Pac-12 Conference, putting the city at the center of high-profile collegiate sports media.

Pac-12 recently signed a lease with Sunset Development for a 42,000-square-foot space in Bishop Ranch that will host the studios and workspaces, as well as new dining and shopping opportunities aimed at accommodating workers and visitors.

Sunset Development officials announced the deal on Wednesday, which is the next step in Pac-12's live sports production endeavors, previously based in San Francisco.

Pac-12 elected to shift from a live events space to remote work last March, with no permanent headquarters or production space since then.



SUNSET DEVELOPMENT

The main entrance to Bishop Ranch, set to be the new home of the Pac-12 Conference's production studios.

The studios are expected to produce more than 850 live sports events annually, with offices accommodating as many as 100 workers and freelancers during production days.

The new studios are slated for the

nearly 200,000-square-foot Bishop Ranch 15, which has been home to expanded operations by Bank of the West starting in 2015, and Donor Network West, which entered a lease at the property the same year. ■

Public Notices

STEPS-OF-SUCCESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 594242
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) STEPS-of-SUCCESS, located at 3955 Vineyard Ave Apt 72 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DANA LEE
3955 Vineyard Ave Apt 72
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/02/2022
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 22 2022.
(PLW Jan 13, 20, 27 and Feb 3, 2023)

TOSCHI COLLINS DOYLE & HOUVENER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 594262
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Toschi Collins Doyle & Houvener, located at 5145 Johnson Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TCD PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
5145 Johnson Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/01/2022
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 22 2022.
(PLW Jan 20, 27, Feb 3 and 10, 2023)

Place a legal notice at
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices.

Employment

Data Engineer IV

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Data Engineer IV in Pleasanton, CA. May Telecommute. Reports to Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. Subj. to bckgrnd check. Salary \$144,309-\$183K. E.O.E. Email resume to TA.Perm.Project@albertsons.com. Attn: S. Taylor

To place an ad or get a quote, contact

Kevin Legarda
at 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@pawekly.com.

Entertainment

BANKHEAD PRESENTS NIGHT FEVER - THE BEE GEES TRIBUTE Travel back in time to pop icons of disco performing hits like "More Than A Woman", "Islands in the Stream", "Stayin' Alive," and many more of The Bee Gees hits. 8 p.m., Jan. 20. Visit livermorearts.org.

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION This free event at the Bankhead Plaza features traditional Chinese dance, martial arts demonstrations, food, craft and other activities to celebrate the upcoming Lunar New Year. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit livermorearts.org.

TRIBUTE TO PATSY CLINE Take a step back with country western legend Patsy Cline's songs. Full of music and comedy, Joni Morris shines with true showmanship and authentic sound. 8 p.m., Jan. 21. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

TRI-VALLEY REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS SOMETHING ROTTEN! Welcome to the Renaissance and this outrageous, crowd-pleasing musical farce, lauded by audience members and critics alike. Jan. 21-22; 28-29. Tickets \$21-\$39. Visit livermorearts.org.

LUCY LOVES DESI "Lucy Loves Desi: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Sitcom", tells all these stories, and more, with as much heart and humor as an episode of I Love Lucy itself. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 23. Tickets \$20-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER - SONGS WE LOVE Vocalists Vuyo Sotashe, Tahira Clayton and Shenel Johns join an all-star band singing their way through four decades of music, beginning with the early blues and jazz of the 1920s and ending in the early 1950. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 26. Tickets \$20-\$65. Bankhead Theater. Visit livermorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS JESSICA VOSK A celebrated singer and actress known for roles on the musical theater and concert stage, Vosk made her sold-out Carnegie Hall debut in November 2021. 8 p.m., Jan. 27. Tickets \$55-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

ENCORE PLAYERS PRESENT LYSISTRATA This modern adaptation of the Aristophanes classic Greek play tells how Lysistrata led the women of Greece to hold a sex-strike until their men agreed to end all wars. Jan. 28-29, Feb. 3-5. Tickets \$25. Visit livermorearts.org.

PLEASANTON YOUTH THEATER COMPANY Designed for elementary school students, Frozen KIDS is a 30-minute adaptation of the 2018 Broadway musical at the Amador Theater, featuring all the songs from the animated film. Jan. 28. Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org.

A SALUTE TO GLEN CAMPBELL The distinctive voice of Nashville singer/songwriter Andy Kahrs celebrates the legacy of Glen Campbell in a salute to the songs of this music

PETS OF THE WEEK

A darling pair

Whiskey and Comet are darling Terrier mix puppies, only 4 to 5 months old. They live in the same foster home, where they are socialized and they get along with other dogs. They enjoy lots of cuddles and playing with toys. They are already neutered, current on vaccines and microchipped. They can be adopted together or individually. They are available through Tri-Valley Animal Rescue. Visit tvar.org for more information.



TVAR

legend. 2 p.m., Jan. 29. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

DOLPHIN HYPERSPACE This Los Angeles based electro-jazz duo is led by acclaimed saxophonist Nicole McCabe and bassist Logan Kane. Their daring improvisation is featured amongst zany synths, insane basslines and bonkers production. 8 p.m., Feb. 3. Tickets \$20. Visit firehousearts.org.

DEEP RIVER WITH ALEX TAITE Experience this one man show exploring an often neglected part of American society, The Negro Spiritual. Take a journey with Alex through this lecture recital to deepen knowledge and humanity. 8 p.m., Feb. 4. Tickets \$20-25. Visit firehousearts.org.

DOVER QUARTET Del Valle Fine Arts presents Dover Quartet, a Grammy-nominated string quartet and the ensemble-in-residence at the Curtis Institute holding residencies with the Kennedy Center and other leading institutions. 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4. Visit livermorearts.org.

Farmers' Markets

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

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

Exhibits

BEAUTY AND TERROR EXHIBIT AT THE BANKHEAD This free 18-piece series by Robin Bernstein at the Uncle Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater is an example of how people will behave under set conditions. Many of these particular pieces refer to lesser-known Holocaust crimes as well as redemptive stories and heroic acts of resistance. Jan. 12-29.

MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT "Imagination Expressed" is the current exhibit at Museum on

Main. This annual collaboration with the Pleasanton Art League shows off the latest works in a variety of media from Tri-Valley artists. Jan. 18 to March 25. The museum is located at 603 Main St.

CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION EXHIBIT The Harrington Gallery welcomes back the California Watercolor Association for their 53rd National Exhibition displaying the best from 84 premier painters. Through Mar. 17. 4444 Railroad Ave.

Support

FREE HOT MEALS Served Monday-Friday, 1-3 p.m., dine-in or take out. 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Visit openheartkitchen.org.

LIVERMORE WARMING CENTER One Nation Dream Makers is operating the warming center at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 S. L St., from 6 p.m.-8 a.m. when overnight temperatures are forecasted at or below 45 degrees and/or a 20% chance or higher of rain. Open to anyone on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact info@onenationdreammakers.org.

Expos

MANUFACTURERS' RV SHOW & SALE Check out some of the largest and best RVs on the West Coast and speak directly with different dealers and representatives all in one convenient location. Jan. 21-29. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Seniors

DAY TRIPPERS WITH THE SENIOR CENTER This popular program continues with a trip to the Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco. 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., Feb. 2. \$30 fee includes roundtrip transportation and admission to museum, departing from Pleasanton Senior Center. Register at 925-931-5365.

SENIOR LUNCHEAS AT THE SENIOR CENTER Senior Lunches (60+) served in the Main Hall M-F, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for more information.

MEALS ON WHEELS Meals on Wheels provide home delivered meals (60+). Call 925-931-5385 for more information.

PLEASANTON RIDES Pleasanton Rides is a door-to-door, shared-ride transportation service for Pleasanton Seniors, serving transportation needs throughout Pleasanton and to select destinations in the Tri-Valley. For reservations and information call 925-398-1045.

Talks

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS C. S. Lakin will lead a three-hour workshop on how to convey the emotions of characters and evoke an emotional response in readers. Ms. Larkin is the author of over a dozen nonfiction books on the craft of writing and productivity. 2 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER BREAKFAST The 23rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. fellowship breakfast features keynote speaker Dr. Will Nelson, Pleasanton Unified School District assistant superintendent of teaching and learning. 8-9:30 a.m., Jan. 23. Tickets \$40. Visit pleasanton.org. The event will be held at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SNAKES Join LARPD Rangers to uncover all the shocking mysteries about snakes by handling live gopher and king snakes, feeling real rattlesnake skin and rattles, learning interesting facts and hearing wild stories about snake encounters. 2 p.m., Jan. 22. Sycamore Grove Park. RSVP by calling 925-960-2400.

WHAT COLLEGES WANT FOR ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS High school students (grades 9-11) and parents are invited to attend this free presentation for an overview of the admissions policies used by public and private colleges that will help students prepare for the college admissions process. 6:30 p.m., Jan. 25. Livermore Civic Center Library.

GRIEF COUNSELING The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss and those grieving need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when a loved one is gone. Join at St Elizabeth Seton, 7 p.m., Jan. 26, Feb. 9, 23, Mar. 9, 23.

Veterans

VA PALO ALTO MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH The Pleasanton Library will host the VA Palo Alto Mobile Medical Outreach team to facilitate

examinations, consultations, and referrals for enrolled veterans. The drop-in event will run from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Jan. 23 in the library parking lot. 400 Old Bernal Ave.

MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH AT LIVERMORE LIBRARY The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's mobile medical outreach van will be at the Civic Center Library parking lot with medical providers on-site to provide examinations, consultations and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., Jan. 26. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

VA MEDICAL OUTREACH FOR MILITARY VETERANS Team members can help veterans and their families with enrollment in VA healthcare, appointments with primary care physicians, referrals to specialists, mental health, hearing, physical therapy and more. 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., Jan. 30. Dublin Library.

Scholarship

COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER SCHOLARSHIP The Community of Character Collaborative invites all High School seniors attending Pleasanton Unified School District schools to apply for the annual \$1,000 Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship. Applications and guidelines are available online at CommunityofCharacter.org. Apply by Feb. 6.

Auditions

VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE AUDITIONS Valley Concert Chorale is holding auditions Jan. 23, which includes a 15-minute meeting with the Music Director, sight-reading, rhythmic exercise and short selection. Singers must commit to the season with Monday evening rehearsals. Call 925-866-4003 or visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

Government

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING This special meeting of the Pleasanton City Council is 7 p.m., Jan. 26. City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Jan. 25. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL MEETING The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Jan. 23. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

DUBLIN

7069 Kalmia Hills Court
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00
Golden Gate Sotheby's Int'l Realty

\$3,500,000
5BD/5.5BA
415-608-1866

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).

Agents: Submit open homes at PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate



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DEANNA ARMARIO AWARD WINNING PLEASANTON REALTOR

Why Work With DeAnna Armario:

In 2022, DeAnna assisted 26 Sellers as well as 38 Buyers throughout the Tri-Valley Area. DeAnna ranks in the TOP 1% of KW Northern California Region agents and has been named among the BEST Real Estate Agents in Pleasanton (expertise.com 2021 & 2022). Her success demonstrates her dedication to clients and the Armario Homes Team. She leads a 'Leading 100 Bay Area Team' and, above all, produces unparalleled results for her clients. She has been building connections in the area for over 35 years and goes above and beyond to provide her clients with a seamless real estate experience. If you, or someone you know are considering moving, contact DeAnna Armario today.

What Our Clients Are Saying: ★★★★★

"We would happily and proudly recommend DeAnna and Armario Homes to anyone in the housing market. They are the best in delivering client-first service in the competitive bay area housing market. We reached out to Armario Homes based on recommendations and their reputation in the region. We were amazed by the team's knowledge, patience, and systematic approach to home selling and buying. DeAnna led the team that sold our home. During our first meeting, she explained to us all the steps, responsibilities and milestones throughout the home selling process...Armario Homes automatically sent us email updates on comps and trends. In addition to her other services like staging, she connected us to a good price, quality contractor to make important changes to our property to make it even more presentable. I was very impressed with their marketing of our home. Their photographer is one of the best in the business using the best and latest equipment." - Pleasanton Seller 2022

2022 Highlights Awards & Accolades



Top 1.5%
Of Groups
Nationwide
REALTRENDS | TOM FERRY

70+
Families Assisted
In 2022

\$113M+
Closed Sales
in 2022



COMING SOON
OFFERED AT \$1,899,000
5448 BELLEVUE CIRCLE, DUBLIN
4 BED | 3 BATH | 2,660 SQFT



LUXURY RUBY HILL LISTING
JUST SOLD \$4,210,000
3839 ANTONINI WAY, PLEASANTON
5 BED | 5.5 BATH | 6,071 SQFT



5705 BELLEZA DR, PLEASANTON
NOW PENDING \$999,000



4471 LINDA WAY, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$1,750,000



4854 BRAXTON PL, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$2,500,000



5174 MOUNT TAM CIR, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$2,150,000



3803 ROBBY CT, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$1,590,000



7368 STONEDALE DR, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$950,000



967 CLINTON PL, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$1,500,000



1038 DIVISION ST, PLEASANTON
SOLD \$1,600,000

TRI-VALLEY REAL ESTATE SERVICES: (925) 302-2626

www.ArmarioHomes.com
Info@ArmarioHomes.com



DeAnna Armario
459 Main Street, Pleasanton
DRE# 01363180 | Broker DRE# 02065804

sereno

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



WELCOME 2023.

We look forward to nurturing relationships and forming purposeful partnerships to create meaningful experiences in the communities where we live, serve, and love.

Follow our stride at sereno.com.



sereno
1% For Good
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

We are honored to announce that Sereno 1% For Good Charitable Foundation has launched an Education Fund - committing \$100,000 to local non-profit partners in the education sector.



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

NEW IN SUNOL! Private estate plus three custom estate lots



3370 Little Valley Road | 6 Bed | 6.5 Bath | +/- 5,581 sq. ft. | Guest House with Private Entry

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VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE



A Note From Liz Venema...

What if you decided to say **"YES"** in 2023? How could a **"YES"** instead of a **"NO"** change your life this year?



SCAN ME

Buyers are out now looking to purchase. If sellers are thinking about waiting until Spring to sell, they should think again. Now is the time to list your home, it is better to be one of the few versus one of the many. Less home inventory means more active buyers for your home. Call us, we will happily walk you through the process. We are a wealth of free information!



7959 Foothill Knolls Drive, Pleasanton
5 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 3,399 Square Feet



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



12400 Morgan Territory, Livermore
5 Bedrooms | 5.5 Bathrooms | 5,992 Square Feet



Voted Pleasanton's **BEST** Real Estate Team!



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Owner, Realtor
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Realtor
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Vista Construction
Home Improvement Contractor
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