

DRIVING OUT CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT

EFFORTS AIMED AT DETERRING RISING CRIME INCLUDE ETCHING
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AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Pushing an agenda (for the right reasons)

For more than 25 years, Dave Hudson has been a familiar face on the San Ramon City Council dais and around town. But not for the past two months or so, and his absence is felt.

Hudson, who was re-elected San Ramon's mayor in 2022, has not attended any council meetings since Jan. 10, nor has he conducted any city business since he suffered a stroke in January while representing the city at the annual Mayors' Conference in Washington, D.C.

He had just started his second consecutive two-year term as mayor, and held a council seat for 23 consecutive years before that. He also has seats on more than 30 local and regional boards and commissions addressing issues such as traffic, air quality, housing and economic development.

Vice mayor Mark Armstrong has assumed the mayor's duties on the council. He and other councilmembers are filling in for Hudson on the plethora of boards and commissions. The State of the City event originally scheduled for Feb. 7 has been postponed indefinitely.

It's postponed indefinitely because there is no timeline for Hudson's return.

Everyone — city staff, his fellow councilmembers, his colleagues on the boards and commissions, residents — wants him to take the time he needs to recover.

But with all that's happening in the city, the mayor's long-term absence is just not sustainable.

Aside from the fact there is a potential for a two-two council vote and no mayor to break the tie, a city the size of San Ramon, with the opportunities and challenges it will face in the next several months, needs a five-person council.

Among the opportunities and challenges is hiring a new city manager. After six years as the city manager, and 16 total with the city, Joe Gorton retired in January. Gorton's Deputy City Manager, Steven Spedowski, was named interim.

Then there are the proposed housing developments, strong opposition to one development and the continuing tension between the Planning Commission and the city planning staff.

A discussion on Hudson's status was on Tuesday night's meeting

agenda, and the outpouring of respect, support and well wishes during public comment was immense.

The council should be commended for agendizing the topic. The Brown Act prevents them from discussing it among themselves outside of a meeting and not addressing the unfortunate situation is not responsible.

City Attorney Martin Lysons started the discussion by outlining options, such as Hudson's remote participation in meetings (with special requirements for closed session).

A few speakers during public comment questioned why the discussion was even taking place. Perhaps they felt it was disrespectful to even consider not supporting Hudson by allowing him time to get his strength back and return to his duties.

What might have set some of the speakers on edge was Lysons' explanation of another option — "the 60 day rule." The municipal code states "If a Councilmember is absent without permission from all regular city council meetings for 60 days consecutively from the last regular meeting he or she attended, his or her office becomes vacant and shall be filled as any other vacancy."

After much discussion, it was decided that an ad hoc committee of Armstrong and Councilmember Marisol Rubio would work with Lysons and Spedowski to draft a letter to Hudson on behalf of the council documenting the discussion and encouraging frequent updates on his recovery.

Armstrong told me, speaking on his own behalf and not that of the council, about a recent conversation he had with Hudson.

"He says he is progressing well, working hard in his rehabilitation from his January stroke and is eager to return to an active role as mayor," Armstrong said. "I again reiterated the outpouring of concern and well wishes from those I have been interacting with and he is very appreciative of everyone's concern. He is following current developments on city issues and understands we have several important issues in the near- and mid-term."

Like many others, I hope arrangements can be made for Hudson to participate remotely when he is ready and be back in the middle seat on the dais soon. ■

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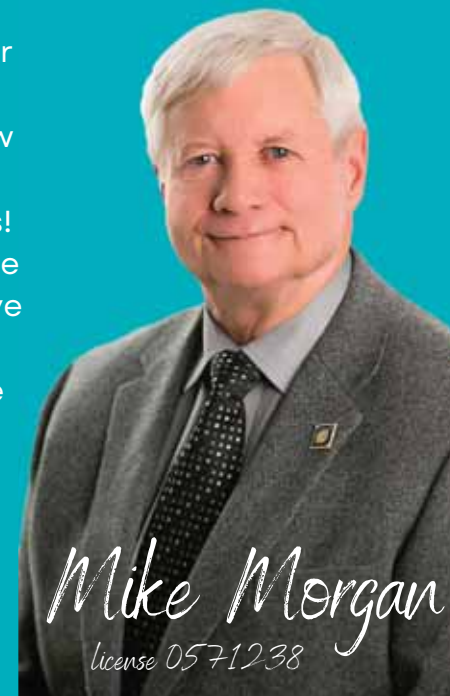
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About the Cover

Livermore police officer Taylor Burruss and LPC's Automotive Technology Program coordinator Brian Hagopian help organize and direct the collaborative "Etch and Catch" events in Livermore. Photo courtesy of LPD. Cover design by Douglas Young.

Vol. XXIV, Number 10

When it comes to gifts, would you prefer to give one or receive one?



Jason Gregory (with Klay Thompson)
Pool services

I much prefer to give a gift than to receive one. It actually makes me uncomfortable to receive gifts. I'd really rather just give a gift to someone in need. For example, if I know someone is hungry, I'm really happy to buy them a meal. I'll even sit down and eat with them. That is so much more meaningful and impactful to me than receiving a gift.



Venna Garcia
Middle school student

I really enjoy giving gifts more than anything because I like to make people smile. And I love the process of picking out what I think and hope will be the perfect present for them.



Satish Krishna
Sales

I really enjoy receiving gifts. I mean seriously, who doesn't? Sometimes I wish every day were Christmas.



Sri Subramanian
Computer engineer

I prefer to give gifts. I've received so many wonderful gifts throughout my lifetime, especially while I was growing up. Those gifts really fortified my life. So now, as an adult, I feel as though it is my time to reciprocate and give to others the kind of gifts that were given to me.



Sathish Natarajan
Software

My preference is to gift gifts, because it makes me feel so good to bring happiness to others. And besides, I already have everything I need, so I really don't need or want any gifts.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

I-580 lanes reopen

Traffic has somewhat resumed back to normal as four of the five lanes on Interstate 580 eastbound near North Flynn Road outside Livermore are now open to vehicles following a week of storm-related damage repairs.

According to Caltrans, this will be temporary until a permanent fix is installed.

Two of the lanes were initially closed due to a major crack and because the guardrail and part of the shoulder adjacent to the cracks had collapsed down the embankment.

On March 24, Caltrans workers shut down three lanes so that they could set themselves up to pave and restripe some of the roads the following day in order to shift the highway to the left and reopen the four lanes.

I-680 tolls to resume

Beginning Friday (March 31), tolling is set to resume on the I-680 Sunol express lanes and new toll policies for clean air vehicles (CAVs) will be in effect on both the I-580 express lane and the I-680 express lanes in Alameda County.

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC) and the Interstate 680 Sunol Smart Carpool Lane Joint Powers Authority (I-680 Sunol JPA) announced the updates in a statement Monday.

I-680 tolls begin northbound north of Mission Boulevard/State Route (SR) 262 to SR-84 / Vallecitos Road and southbound from SR-84 / Calaveras Road to SR-237 / Calaveras Boulevard.

The I-680 express lanes will resume operations between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday to Friday. FasTrak is required for all express lane users.

Diablo Road closed

To replace a drainage culvert on Diablo Road, east of Alameda Diablo, the town of Danville has fully closed a section of the road from March 23 until April 13.

The temporary road closure between Alameda Diablo and Avenida Nueva has allowed city workers to begin replacing the culvert, which is a type of drainage pipe that is built into roads and bridges to give an opening underneath the surface for water to flow.

"The project is necessary to maintain safe travel on Diablo Road and integrity of the Town drainage system," according to the town's website.

It also states that the town has scheduled the removal of compromised eucalyptus trees over the same project period as the culvert replacement. ■

City Council approves 360-unit multi-family development at Stoneridge Shopping Center

The 5-1/2-story, mixed-use apartment complex is set to break ground later this year

By Christian Trujano

After nearly a decade of planning, the Pleasanton City Council unanimously approved a 360-unit multi-family housing project to be developed at the Stoneridge Shopping Center during its March 21 council meeting.

The 5-1/2-story, mixed-use apartment complex and parking structure project is expected to break ground in late 2023 and will take about two and a half years to complete.

"I think it's going to be a good fit, building wise," Mayor Karla Brown said during the council meeting.

"This is a commercial area of town. There's development all around Stoneridge Mall Road ... so it will fit well in a multi-story area. I think it'll be one of the most attractive buildings in the area."

Approved by the Planning Commission during its Feb. 22 meeting, the project would total approximately 618,370 square feet in size and 65 feet in height.

The complex, which would be located on the southeast corner of the shopping center, would be built across 6 acres located between the mall, the new 10x Genomics campus project to the south across

Stoneridge Mall Road and offices to the east across Stoneridge Mall Road.

It will offer for-rent apartments, including 58 below market rate units, as part of the city's Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance (IZO). The ordinance requires all new multi-family residential projects of 15 units or more to provide at least 15% of the project's total units at prices that are affordable to very low- and/or low-income households.

"I appreciate the 58 low income units, maybe for some teachers in our community who are looking to stay and these are rental apartments," Brown said. "So 58 low income units

will fit well within our community to supply low income housing — workforce housing — which we are in desperate need of."

The project is not a part of Pleasanton's current sixth Housing Element cycle as the project actually dates back to January 2012 when the council at the time approved the rezoning of nine sites throughout the city for high-density multifamily development in order to meet its 2015-2023 Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

Since then it has gone to the

See **STONERIDGE** on Page 6

Meet Pleasanton's 2023 Ambassadog: Stella James

Stella is a 4-year-old terrier mix adopted in 2021 through Valley Humane Society

By Christian Trujano

Before last week, Stella James was just a butter-loving 4-year-old terrier mix who enjoys going on walks, sleeping in later than most dogs and has a guinea pig for a best friend (which she rescued from hiding in the family backyard).

Now, Stella has a new title — Pleasanton's 2023 Ambassadog.

"Now therefore it be resolved that the city of Pleasanton hereby confers upon Stella the distinct honor of serving as the 2023 Pleasanton Ambassador dog, and wishes Stella well as she pleasantly paws her way through Pleasanton in her new role for our dog friendly city," Councilmember Valerie Arkin said during the March 21 City Council meeting.

Originally a foster dog at the Valley Humane Society, Stella was adopted by Pleasanton resident Michelle James in January 2021. James was no stranger to fostering animals from the nonprofit as she and her daughter had previously helped her neighbor who fostered kittens.

"(My neighbor) would have me and my daughter, Hannah, come over and play with the kittens so they would have more social time, and so she got us into fostering," James said, adding that it was mostly kittens that they fostered.

But with her kids wanting a dog, James decided to take a chance by temporarily fostering the now-Ambassadog, Stella.



VHS

The James family adopted Stella, Pleasanton's new Ambassadog, in January 2021 after having planned on only fostering her temporarily.

"I thought we would think 'no, it's too much work' but Stella just acted like she was part of the family and so we just kept her," James said.

Since then, James has come to appreciate Stella's cat-like personality of not waking up early, befriending her other pet cat and even preferring cat food over dog food.

"She sleeps in until like 10 or 11 a.m., no matter if the whole household is up, which obviously we're up at that time," James said. "That's why I didn't want a dog because I see people get up at, like, five and six in the morning to walk their dog no matter what ... so Stella is

kind of perfect like that."

James, however, had no idea that her sleep-loving terrier would eventually represent all of Pleasanton's puppy population.

She explained how last October, the Valley Humane Society held its annual Tails at Twilight gala where James' fiancée won an auction for the title. James said that he had originally wanted it for his own dog but instead gave the title to Stella.

"I had no idea what I was getting into, but it is funny and it's cute," James said.

See **AMBASSADOG** on Page 11

PPD faces staffing challenges

By Christian Trujano

As part from hitting several of its goals, such as 93% of violent crime cases being solved, the Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing told the City Council last Tuesday that one of the biggest challenges continues to be a staffing shortage.

"The staffing challenges are weighing heavy on department morale," Swing said during a presentation to the council on March 21. "I know that weighs heavy because there are people that are in their career progression, who want to go into a certain specialty assignment ... that's probably why we're even losing some folks — because we don't have the opportunities that people are looking for in their own professional development."

During Swing's biannual update to the council, some of the pieces of information that stuck out to several of the council members regarding personnel matters was the seven officer vacancies and the "anticipated attrition of up to 30 officer positions within the next two years," that Swing mentioned.

But even as the department continues to lose officers — such as two who left for other agencies recently — Swing said they are working toward an ambitious goal of being fully staffed by June of 2025.

He explained that the department has been working on recruitment efforts through its Police Academy in Pleasanton, but even with that he said the main issue continues to be

See **PPD** on Page 11

Council removes 14 priority projects from Capital Improvement Program list

Removed items include city parking lot resurfacing, Division Street capital improvements

By **CHRISTIAN TRUJANO**

The Pleasanton City Council deferred or deleted 14 priority projects from the city's General Fund Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project list during the March 21 council meeting.

Some of the projects, which will be deferred to a later year or deleted altogether, include the Division Street Capital Improvement Project, city parking lot resurfacing and a short-term parking solution for the ACE train station parking lot.

"There's a long list of projects that we have in our Capital Improvement Program," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said. "What we have for you this evening is a recommendation to make some adjustments to the existing list and then what we'll do with that information is build a recommendation for a two-year capital budget and four-year CIP, which you'll see for public presentation and discussion at the budget workshop

planned for April 18."

In Pleasanton, the capital improvement project budgeting for each two-year budget cycle typically involves prioritizing the funding for proposed projects based on revenue projections for the upcoming two-year budget period.

Director of Engineering Steve Kirkpatrick told the council the current process causes a problem with projects having to compete with one another for funding during those first two years.

"Then, after a project has been funded and it's in the next two-year cycle, it doesn't get considered again unless additional funding is needed to complete that project," Kirkpatrick said.

"That's an important thing that we're looking at tonight because we have not traditionally looked at those (projects)," he added. "We have not considered the priorities of projects that may not have started for any

number of reasons — from regulatory reasons, etc. — but they have been budgeted and they remain budgeted. They remain a priority."

So when he and staff presented the three-page list of projects totaling close to \$44 million in funding, Kirkpatrick reiterated that taking away those certain projects would help free up money for staff to consider in the current two-year budgeting process.

"Why is that important? I think one of the reasons is ... there are a lot of priorities, a lot of goals, a lot of community desire, a lot of staff putting forward projects that are expensive," he said. "There's a lot of projects that are competing for really what is going to be a limited amount of money."

Originally, staff had recommended a total of 15 projects to be deferred or deleted, but Councilmember Julie Testa made a motion, which passed unanimously, to carry forward the

first design phase for the Bernal Community Farm project with a fund of \$350,000.

The removal of the 15 projects would have freed up \$8.6 million for the council to consider in the current two-year budgeting process along with the \$2 million that is made available to those projects through the General Fund.

Vice Mayor Jack Balch had staff point out that the \$2 million would be drawn from the city's "Rainy Day Fund."

Director of Finance Susan Hsieh said that the city has about \$10 million in the Rainy Day Fund and \$3.5 million will be allocated toward capital projects during this fiscal year and every year for the next two budget years.

"With that \$2 million in each of the next two years, and then \$8.6 million freed up, if we delete and defer some of those projects, it leaves us with \$12.6 million enabled to allocate to

other projects," Kirkpatrick said.

After Testa's motion, \$8.25 million will be the new funding number that staff will work into the budget discussions in the future leaving the city with \$12.25 million to allocate out to projects. She reiterated that the money was "seed money" that was needed in order to break up the first phase of the project into several sub-phases.

"Phase one is a \$1.2 million rough estimate for the improvements that are contemplated for that phase of the project and we would likely not move much forward in the near term with \$350,000," Beaudin said. "We need to get to a critical mass and break that phase into probably sub-phases if we were to start earlier. But that work is not complete at this time. We just have an overall plan for phase one."

Kirkpatrick added that freeing up even those 14 projects will also help with staff goal of constructing a 10-year infrastructure plan where they plan on reshaping the entire four-year capital improvement program and two-year capital improvement project budgeting process.

See **PROJECTS** on Page 9

STONERIDGE

Continued from Page 5

Planning Commission three times — twice in 2019 and again in 2020 before coming back last March with a final design plan. Originally, the project was going to build close to 500 units at the site before city staff proposed a mixed-use plan that brought the number of units down to the current 360.

"I think it's a more attractive designed project than a lot of those around the BART lines and corridors and so I also think it's a more attractive project than what we saw a few years ago," Vice Mayor Jack Balch said. "I think the articulation looks well and I really think the overall design breaks it up."

The units will be "wrapped" around an internal five-level parking structure and residents would have access to two ground-level outdoor courtyard-style spaces, which include a mix of common use outdoor space and recreational uses and one common use roof-top deck area.

In addition, the 2012 design guidelines require a minimum of 10% of the affordable units to be three bedrooms, a minimum of 35% of the units to be two bedrooms and the remaining units to be one bedroom or studios.

The project's parking structure would consist of 473 surface and parking structure vehicle spaces. Seven of the spaces would be surface level and 466 spaces would be located within the parking structure.

While the project will take away 800 spaces from the Stoneridge Mall itself, staff pointed out that there will still be around 475 spaces.

Additionally, the project proposes

a total of 230 long- and short-term bicycle spaces.

"The predominance of the building's ground level activity and most of the prominent architectural features are oriented toward the south and east to create a strong street presence and highly functional network of vehicular and pedestrian connections along both segments of Stoneridge Mall Road," said senior planner Eric Luchini.

The applicant behind the project is Simon Property Group, which owns roughly 60% of the parcels at the shopping center.

"This is obviously a very important project for us. It's the first of many that we hope to do at Stoneridge Mall," said Scott Travis, vice president of development at Simon Property Group. "It's the first opportunity for us to turn a community center that's inward focused to one that is outward focused and embraces the community around us and brings them all to the corner, to the street front, instead of being surrounded by a sea of parking lot, which is I think the next evolution of malls across the nation."

According to staff, the project is consistent with the land use allowed for and zoned at the site and would be consistent with all applicable objective standards from the 2012 Housing Site Development Standards and Design Guidelines except for two standards. Staff had requested waivers for both of those standards pursuant to State Housing Density Bonus law, which the council also approved during Tuesday's meeting.

"Under state law and the city's municipal code, the city must provide for increases in residential density

known as density bonuses, and provide incentives or concessions ... and development standards for housing developments that provide a specified percentage of affordable units," Luchini said. "Controlling state law also establishes varying amounts of density bonus and incentives or concessions depending on the percentage of affordable units and the range of affordability provided by a project. In this case, the project is proposing to provide 24% of the proposed base units to be restricted for low income households, which would allow for a 50% density bonus and results in a project density of approximately 60 units per acre."

In regards to tree removal and landscape, the project plans include removing 105 of the 169 total existing trees on the site, 27 of which are heritage trees. However, it also includes plans to plant 162 new trees, the majority of which would be 24 inch box size.

As for the amenities, the project will include two publicly available outdoor plazas and two private shared-use recreation areas for its residents including a swimming pool, barbecue areas, children's play area and shaded landscape.

This is the first housing development to be approved on the Stoneridge Shopping Center property as the city recently zoned more housing at the site as part of its 2023-31 Housing Element.

Because various property owners within the shopping center expressed a desire to completely redevelop the entire area, council asked staff to work on an early-stage development plan. The Stoneridge Mall Framework was developed in August and finalized in January.

"Although this project is not subject to the requirements of the mall framework, we did, based on an ask from the Planning Commission, provide a little bit of analysis of conformance with the framework and staff did not find any reason why this project would conflict or impede implementation of the framework," community development director Ellen Clark said.

"The question was really asked I think a bit more broadly by the planning commission was, you know, does approving this project get in the way of accomplishing what we set out to do as part of the framework effort and the answer, in staff's evaluation, was no," Clark added.

"So it provides, for example, right of way for the multi-use path that was envisioned as part of the framework," Clark explained. "There's room around this project to connect to adjacent buildings. It does provide that sort of pedestrian scale and feel around the building edges, pedestrian connectivity, gathering spaces. So, in many ways it does fulfill its objectives, although we didn't, as I say, evaluate it point by point to the new objective standards."

But while the majority of the dais did show their support for the project, there were still some worries as to things like traffic, which was Councilmember Jeff Nibert's main concern.

"I know the framework that we just completed and approved in January dealt quite extensively with the traffic situation, and I know that analysis that was done there incorporated this project as an input or a set of assumptions," Nibert said. "Some people just worry and that's just one thing I worry about."

But city traffic engineer Mike Tassano reassured Nibert by stating that this project has been in the city's model for the 10 years that it has been in the works.

"The new developments that are going on, we evaluated those," Tassano said. "We have a number of improvements and I think if you look at the history of what we've done through the mall, and the improvements that you see in place now ... that improved our traffic circulation. That was something that we identified."

He mentioned that while he does have some worries regarding the evening peak traffic hours with the BART station and office workers leaving the area, he believes the city can address those issues with better street markings.

Councilmember Julie Testa also expressed that while she has no real issues with this particular project, she is concerned about the overreach from the state and how state laws limit how much the city could change to the project in terms of height or setbacks.

"I think it's important for our community to really start understanding how significant the overreach by the state in mandating our community and what we believe fits," Testa said.

"I'm not even talking about this project. I think I support that we're looking at re-envisioning the mall," Testa continued. "I believe it's an appropriate location for residential and creating a new walkable village there. There are some things that I am not really crazy about this project, but I don't really see that we have the discretion to do changes so I just really want our community to be paying attention." ■

CityServe, Senior Support merger brings positive changes

BY NICOLE GONZALES

CityServe of the Tri-Valley has picked up where Senior Support of the Tri-Valley (SSPTV) left off after the two organizations merged last year.

Because of the rather secretive nature of the merger and the controversy that arose because of lack of information, many residents questioned the new leadership and how the Senior Support programs would be impacted.

CityServe, a nonprofit that provides social, emotional and physical care for individuals of all ages and connects them with resources, has a program specifically for those “60 and better” and their care teams.

Now, more than six months after the merger, CityServe CEO Christine Beitsch-Bahmani said not much has changed besides the name.

“We have kept all of the programs and (in fact) we’ve already started to enhance them,” she said.

In the months since the change, Beitsch-Bahmani has looked at areas of improvement and expansion for their services.

Beitsch-Bahmani explained, “we’re looking at things like how can we take them to the next level? Are we reaching the right people? Is it the right person leading that group? How can we incorporate other programs?”

While the program seems to be going smoothly and the merger a

positive action now, it had a rocky start.

The merger took place after a tumultuous time for SSPTV, turning it into a dysfunctional organization. Executive director Robert Taylor, who staff members characterized as “indifferent” and lacking in leadership ability, resigned in November 2021 with no notice provided publicly. Employees said little was done to recruit another executive director, despite it being a requirement for the agency’s status. And complaints were filed by a former employee alleging Taylor filed misleading applications on behalf of SSPTV when applying for Paycheck Protection Program loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

When SSPTV’s Friendly Visitor Program, a visitation program that connected volunteers with seniors in the area to socialize and spend time with in their own homes, was halted, volunteers and employees started asking questions and the news of the merger was made public.

After the merger was announced in September 2022, community members quickly began voicing concerns. The public turmoil caused an outpour in disagreeable comments at one Pleasanton City Council meeting.

In an attempt to connect with residents and share information, leaders of the two nonprofits held a town hall meeting to address the issues at hand.

Residents continued to pose questions as to what the seniors who previously received support from the dissolved SSPTV — many of whom were dependent on those services — were supposed to do now.

Tim Sbranti, a CityServe board member, addressed the major concerns expressed by upset residents. On the merger Sbranti explained how the process happened “organically” from his position.

“We (CityServe and SSPTV) were doing the same work. It’s not about ownership of the name, it’s ownership of the work,” Sbranti said. “Because we had more offices, broader geographic reach, a broader donor base and an executive director, it just kind of made sense that this was the direction we went in.”

Former SSPTV board president Christine Sevier also attended the town hall meeting to address concerns related to her part in the merger and other considerations.

“The seniors were not being served at the level that they deserved,” Sevier said. “Senior Support services lacked the very basic infrastructure to be successful.”

“I saw how comprehensive they (CityServe) were and how they were ready to jump into action while other nonprofits around the area did not,” Sevier said.

Reflecting on the meeting and early days of the merger, Beitsch-Bahmani



NICOLE GONZALES

Health Education Program Manager Kyle Hemming is shown leading a cooking class on ‘mocktails.’ The class is one of several new ones created by CityServe.

said some criticism and anxiety was expected when the merger was announced.

“I think anytime there’s change or people don’t know things, it’s fear. It’s nerve-racking,” Beitsch-Bahmani said.

“We relaunched what was called the Friendly Visitor Program and that is now called the Caring Visitor Program. It’s the same program but it goes more in line with our branding and our values of caring, coordinating and connecting. That’s why the name was changed,” Beitsch-Bahmani said.

“The initial reaction was hard for us but I think over time, once people came in and gave us a chance, they kept coming back. They found reassurance that the care teams and those services are still here,” Beitsch-Bahmani said. “So I think it was just a matter of them experiencing our services — and our heart.”

Among the many programs offered now, the center has created “Cooking

with Kyle,” in which staff instructor Kyle Hemming discusses health-related food topics with audience members.

Many of the current programs CityServe hosts at the center aim to engage, educate and socialize seniors.

In the future, Beitsch-Bahmani hopes to create additional programs, classes and support groups for seniors. Specifically, she plans on introducing a community ambassador program in which older adults can visit and mentor fellow clients on aging and health education.

“I think just helping people is the goal for this department. Is it really about how do we get people connected into the community, how can we help them live healthy and thriving lives,” she said. “It’s important to see these community members are thriving because it impacts all of us.”

To find out more information about CityServe of the Tri-Valley, visit www.cityservecares.org/. ■

Shawn’s Boat hits the water

UC Berkeley rowers seek to carry on late Danville teammate’s legacy

BY JEANITA LYMAN

Up until last weekend, alumnae from the UC Berkeley women’s rowing team who graduated nearly two decades ago hadn’t gathered at the Briones Reservoir since their time practicing as undergrads.

The former teammates reunited at the reservoir on Saturday (March 25) and were joined by the university’s current women’s rowing team, as well as family and friends of Shawn O’Donnell — a Danville-raised woman who was killed upon being struck by a truck on July 20 while bicycling to her job in Washington D.C. as a foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department shortly after her 40th birthday — to celebrate a major milestone towards efforts to carry on her legacy in the sport.

The Shawn’s Boat fundraiser, organized by O’Donnell’s former rowing teammates, reached its \$50,000 goal by late January, just months after it was swiftly launched by alumnae who reconnected and set to work on memorializing their late teammate after learning about her death last summer.

With the funding secured, the

Shawn Kelly O’Donnell racing shell was christened and made its maiden voyage on a sunny Saturday morning, piloted by current rowers at UC Berkeley who were joined by Mary O’Donnell, a Danville resident and mother of the late rower and U.S. diplomat.

“The friendships Shawn made with her rowing team are the same kind of friendships you’re all going to have ... it’s been 20 years, and the sisterhood that these girls had ... to make our lives a little less painful, a little less missing Shawn, is invaluable,” Mary O’Donnell told current rowers at the March 25 boat christening ceremony. “You can’t even put (it) into words. I hope all of you treasure the relationships you have, because they will last literally a lifetime.”

“She lives in you,” she added.

Shawn O’Donnell’s death hit her former teammates hard, with news spreading amongst the far-flung group of Berkeley alumnae in the days after her death and close to 20 years after their time together in college, spurring not just the fundraiser, but a teamwide reunion and appreciation for each other — as well as O’Donnell, who remains present

in their conversations and anecdotes about their adventures rowing together.

“It was a worldwide effort pretty much,” former teammate Anita Sarrett said. “The network really came through. For some of you that don’t know much about Shawn, she was a Danville native...she had that laugh, that friend who had that laugh, that just ingrains in your memory.”

In addition to bringing the former and current Berkeley rowers together to carry on O’Donnell’s legacy, family members emphasized the importance of the memorial efforts and sense of support and community that Shawn’s Boat had provided them in the aftermath of her death.

“You have made our family feel like part of the team, and for that I can’t ever repay you,” Shawn O’Donnell’s sister Shannon O’Donnell said at the ceremony. “So this a small token of something that you’ve done, but as a whole, I’m just so grateful for Shawn’s village for making my life and my family’s life easier these past few months.”

O’Donnell’s stepfather Claes Elfving emphasized that the project overall was a symbol of neverending



CHRIS DANG

Mary O’Donnell douses the bow of the racing shell bearing her late daughter’s name during the boat’s christening ceremony on March 25.

love and support his step daughter had garnered over the course of her lifetime.

“This whole journey of trying to get this racing shell to become a reality has been a journey of love for Shawn and the University of California Berkeley,” Elfving said. “Shawn was killed eight months and five days ago, and there is not a day that goes by that we don’t think of her and miss her. This shell is a beautiful and wonderful way to remember and memorialize Shawn.”

Shannon and Mary O’Donnell both emphasized that the legacy represented by Shawn’s Boat was twofold for the family, with Shawn O’Donnell’s and her sister’s late father

Brian O’Donnell also having been a rower, with a boat dedicated to him after his death in 2011.

Sarrett noted that in addition to O’Donnell’s memory being carried on by the former teammates, the next step of their memorial effort following the debut of the racing shell in her name was for O’Donnell to continue living on in the water, spurred on by current and future Berkeley rowers.

“It’s really amazing to know that we have this boat and these bears and our future bears are going to be rowing (in it) and it’s a legacy that she can continue to be here on Briones,” Sarrett said. “And I think something that we’re really looking forward to is seeing it race.” ■

Kaiser moves workers from Oakland to Pleasanton office

Move set for early next year as company adapts to hybrid work model

By JEANITA LYMAN

A number of administrative workers at Kaiser Permanente's Oakland campus are set to be shifted to Pleasanton next year as the company restructures to a hybrid work model for office workers and seeks to reduce costs.

Approximately 10% of the workforce at the healthcare company's national headquarters in Oakland are set to be moved to the Pleasanton campus at 4460 Hacienda Drive starting in 2024, according to a statement earlier this month.

"Like many organizations, Kaiser Permanente is responding to changes in how and where employees have been working since the COVID-19 pandemic profoundly changed the world," Kaiser Permanente officials said in a statement. "Across our

organization, we have shifted to a hybrid model that includes a combination of on-site and remote work. As we continue to support remote and flexible work, our need for physical administrative space is significantly reduced and we are right sizing our campuses."

Part of adapting to the aftermath of the state of emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic that was lifted earlier this year will also include continuing to keep remote workers remote, leading to reduced needs for office space.

"We can best meet the needs of on-site regional administrative employees at our existing Pleasanton campus, while also significantly decreasing annual administrative costs," Kaiser officials said.

However, they also emphasized that the company would not be leaving Oakland, and that their

headquarters would continue to operate there.

"Kaiser Permanente remains committed to the City of Oakland, which is an integral part of Kaiser Permanente's history and future," Kaiser officials said. "Kaiser Permanente's national headquarters will continue to be in Oakland."

They also noted that the move would not have far-reaching impacts on the company's operations.

"Employees working in national offices will centralize in Oakland's Ordway building," Kaiser officials said. "Kaiser Permanente's flagship medical center in Oakland — as well as all of our care delivery facilities — will not be affected by this office consolidation." ■



JEANITA LYMAN

Approximately 10% of the administrative workforce at Kaiser Permanente's national headquarters in Oakland are set to be shifted to the Pleasanton campus next year.

California lifts target for 15% water conservation as yet another storm approaches

By ALASTAIR BLAND

With the Sierra Nevada smothered in snow, large swaths of the Central Valley underwater and many Californians weary of water, state officials announced today that they are lifting some drought-related provisions on water use.

"Our water supply conditions have improved markedly," said Secretary of Natural Resources Wade Crowfoot.

The state is rescinding its request for voluntary 15% water conservation statewide, which was issued in July 2021, and instead, Crowfoot said, shifting to an approach of making conservation a "way of life."

"We need to maintain our vigilance," he said. "It's not about going back to normal anymore. It's really adjusting to a new normal."

Some of the state's emergency provisions were ended and some were left in place. Wasteful uses of water, such as hosing down sidewalks and watering ornamental grass on commercial property, remain banned, according to state officials.

The state, however, is ending its requirement that local water agencies implement Level 2 drought contingency plans, which are locally written water use regulations — such as limits on watering lawns — that are invoked during water shortages.

In total, 81 drought-related provisions were enacted since April 2021. Just 33 remain in place, said Gov. Gavin Newsom at a press briefing today.

State officials also announced today a large increase in the amounts of water that local suppliers will get from the State Water Project, increasing from 35% announced last month to 75% of requested supplies. The water is provided to 750,000 acres of farmland and 27 million people, mostly in Southern California.

The announcements come as some of the state's reservoirs near capacity, with some of the state's largest expected to fill by late spring. And the snowpack of the Sierra Nevada, nearing record levels in the southern portion of the range, continues to grow.

When Newsom issued his voluntary conservation target almost two years ago, many water experts said Newsom should have made it mandatory, as former Gov. Jerry Brown did during the previous drought. They also criticized him for failing to reduce use by farmers, who consume 80% of the state's delivered water supply.

State officials say even though the 15% target was voluntary, it worked. However, the data does not back that up: Californians used 6% less water from July 2021 through December 2022 compared to 2020 — falling far short of Newsom's 15% goal.

Heather Cooley, director of research at the Pacific Institute, an Oakland water supply thinktank, said California must not relax its ethos of water conservation.

In spite of wet weather, the state's largest water supply — its groundwater basins — remain depleted.

"Even though reservoirs are recovering, groundwater aquifers remain depleted. The Colorado River — a major water source for Southern California — is also facing a massive deficit," Cooley said. "The reality is we don't have water to waste in California. We need to continue investing in water efficiency to prepare for a hotter, drier future and more intense droughts."

Mike McNutt, spokesperson for the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District in Los Angeles County, said the retraction of the conservation target "sends the wrong message" to the public.

"Why put out messaging that says something different, that says, 'You can conserve if you want to, but you don't need to?'" said McNutt, whose district serving 75,000 people is

totally reliant on water from the state aqueduct.

"The next drought is certainly just around the corner," he added.

Californians did cut their average water use by 600,000 acre-feet in almost two years. That's almost two-thirds the volume of Folsom Reservoir and enough water to serve 1.2 million households in a year.

Crowfoot stressed that the drought is not over, noting that drought status "is not a completely binary situation." In some parts of the state, drought conditions have dramatically eased, but not in others. Crowfoot said the Klamath River basin and the region of Southern California that relies on Colorado River water continue to face "acute water shortages."

Thousands of households lack drinking water due to depleted groundwater basins, which have been overdrafted for decades and experts agree they will not rebound in a single rainy winter.

Joaquin Esquivel, chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, said the hope is that cities "are not just rebounding" to old ways of water use.

"Conservation remains a priority," Crowfoot added.

Michael Anderson, a climatologist with the California Department of Water Resources, said snowpack is at 278% of normal, with another storm system expected to hit the North Coast and move inland and south from there, starting Monday. The system, he said, will deliver a relatively cold storm originating in the Gulf of Alaska, unlike some recent blasts of tropical moisture. This means it will drop more snow in the mountains.

"Not massive accumulations, but could be locally heavy," he said. ■



Sprinklers water a lawn in Los Angeles on June 5, 2022.

PABLO UNZUELA / CALMATTERS

After ‘some near-misses’, Dublin officials issue advisory on e-scooter road laws

follow the proper rules of the road, which can result in accidents and injury.”

Main rules for riders include wearing a helmet at all times. Scooters that are intended for one person at a time must be used by one person at a time.

“Users must carry a valid driver’s license, ride at a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour (and) dismount and walk for left turns,” the official release said. “Do not ride on sidewalks, abide by crosswalk regulations (and) follow all rules that apply to motor vehicles.” ■

By NICOLE GONZALES

The city of Dublin has recently increased its efforts to inform the public of the correct electric scooter road laws.

Via brochure handouts, social media and online posts, city staff have restated the legal guidelines for e-scooter riders given their rise in

popularity. City staff have said the clarification of rules was brought on by a large number of riders neglecting to follow them.

“We had become aware of some incidents throughout Dublin in which teens and pre-teens had been riding electric scooters unsafely, and often without a driver’s license,” said Shari

Jackman, communications manager for the city.

“There had been some near-misses with electric scooters coming too close to hitting pedestrians on sidewalks or in crosswalks, or passing intersections and driveways without observing other motor vehicles,” Jackman added.

In a social media post, the city listed out a set of laws specific to e-scooters operators and addressed the reasoning behind the post.

“Electric scooters have become quite popular as a mode of transportation, especially for teenagers,” city officials said. “Unfortunately, many electric scooter drivers neglect to

PROJECTS

Continued from Page 6

“It really is focusing on how do we keep the existing facilities and infrastructure in Pleasanton that are currently aging ... periodically turning them to “like-new” conditions. So maintaining what we have; a state of good repair,” Kirkpatrick said.

Councilmember Valerie Arkin confirmed with staff that past priority projects such as the Century House remodeling project and the construction of a new skatepark were included in the ongoing maintenance portion of the 10-year infrastructure plan.

Kirkpatrick assured her that the first three years in the 10-year infrastructure plan identifies those enhancement projects that Arkin

mentioned and their future ongoing maintenance.

“That’s why you’ll see the total funding number being more in those first couple years,” Kirkpatrick said. “Later years are all focused on maintenance.”

“We are deferring it,” he added. “We are not saying it is unimportant to do this eventually, but is this the priority where that money sits right now because, as I said, it’s on a pay-as-you-go. Should that funding be sitting there or should we be putting it to another use?”

He also pointed out that any of the deleted or deferred items can come back at any time

After the council approved the original motion from Testa, Balch wanted to look past the 15 items that staff had brought forward and

motioned to “redeploy the dollars” from the skatepark design project, which was on the overall list of projects that are being carried forward by staff.

“When I look at the list of unfunded items that our community needs ... I believe that we could redeploy those dollars to things that are in greater need,” Balch said. “There’s a lot of other needs I think can come before. It doesn’t mean (the skatepark) is not a need. It just means, at this time, other things on the list, I find of a higher priority.”

The motion was seconded by Arkin who said she wanted to be respectful of the vice mayor’s request to discuss the item but was met with disapproval from the dais.

“When you’re making a plan for a \$10 to \$14 million project and

you’re continuing to move forward on something, knowing full well that we have many expenses, to me it seems not responsible as somebody who’s responsible for our fiscal sustainability in this budget,” Brown said commenting on the vice mayor’s past request to adopt staff’s Lions Wayside and Delucchi Park conceptual plan for the adjacent downtown parks, which proposes a complete redesign.

“Earmarking funds for a skatepark, meaning it’s fully liquid to remove if an emergency comes up, to me makes more sense than spending more staff time to find out exactly if it is \$10.1, \$10.3 or \$14.2 million,” Brown added.

Balch told the mayor that he had only backed the conceptual plan, not the final funding number for that

joint-park master redesign plan.

The 14 deleted or deferred projects include: Short-term ACE station parking solution — deferred; Amador Theater facility assessment — deleted; Climate Action Plan update — deleted; City parking lots resurfacing — deferred; 2021 HVAC replacement — deleted; Phases 2 and 3 for the Old Vineyard Avenue pedestrian trail — deleted; 2022 sound wall repair and replacement — deleted; Design of Val Vista Park restrooms — deleted; A second bridge over Arroyo De La Laguna on Bernal Avenue — deferred; A 2017 Bridge Evaluations Program - deferred; Division Street capital improvements — deleted; Santa Rita Intersection Improvement — deferred; and Emergency vehicle access road maintenance — deleted. ■

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Livermore VINE

A message from our Publisher, Gina Channell Wilcox

I'm Gina Channell Wilcox and I've been with Embarcadero Media Group since 2006, when I was hired as the president and publisher of the East Bay Division. At that time, the division reported on only Pleasanton and Danville. Now, with a smaller staff, we cover Tri-Valley communities of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville.

While I wear many hats in my position, I'm a journalist at heart. My passion is connecting people to their community and each other, providing useful information and being a catalyst for change.

My colleagues and I are committed to reporting the truth, like when false accusations were lodged against a group of cheerleaders and we set the record straight.

We try to explain complex ideas that affect residents, such as why city councils have to plan for more housing even though there is a water crisis and crowded schools and streets.

We shine light on those who use wealth, manipulation and deception for years to thwart plans for a downtown that is supported by almost all residents.

But we also tell stories of compassion and inspiration, like the family that went to Ukraine to help in the first days of the war or the tale of Danville resident Joe Alvarez, a World War II and Korean War veteran who survived his ship being bombed twice. At 98 years old, Joe still dances with his girlfriend and enjoys a beer (or two) while bowling with his friends. Now that's an inspiration!

Our staff may have decreased over the years but our dedication to journalism has increased exponentially, as has the number of people we reach.

We understand how critical it is for residents of the Tri-Valley to get factual and unbiased news about our cities, schools and communities at large. In turn, our small but mighty staff depends on readers to help us continue our important work. Please consider Supporting Local Journalism.

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AMBASSADOG

Continued from Page 5

The title also included a proclamation from the City Council during the March 21 meeting, special attention on a Tri-Valley Community Television program and a designated

place of honor for Stella and her family in the city's annual Hometown Holiday Parade.

"Valley Humane Society has been saving animal lives and supporting our community for more than 35 years, so we are pleased to have the city participate with them in recognizing

the Pleasanton Ambassadors," said Assistant City Manager Pamela Ott in a press release. "Having an official canine representative highlights our dog-friendly community, while recognizing a valuable local non-profit organization and its efforts to save and improve the lives of Tri-Valley

companion animals."

James echoed what Ott said in the press release and said that as a longtime foster volunteer who cares for dogs and cats while they are prepared for adoption, she sees the importance of the work the non-profit is doing.

"I think it's huge what they do because they're saving so many animals, they're giving them their surgeries and they're taking them out of kill shelters," James said. "They're finding such good homes for so many animals so I like to be a part of that, however I can." ■

PPD

Continued from Page 5

the competitive hiring market.

"It's a very competitive marketplace for police officers today, which is why we've interviewed 110 and hired 10," Swing said. "It's competitive to find officers and it's competitive to find qualified candidates that can successfully pass a police hiring process."

Although the department continues to deal with personnel matters, some of the other aspects of the chief's update were positive as he highlighted PPD's 93% clearance rate of violent crimes.

"Overall, the violent crime rate was down, and if you look at the highlighted row of robbery, there were 18 robberies reported in Pleasanton in 2022," Swing said. "You look at the prior years, we were in the 50s, in the 40s and so forth."

And while he added that the department is still working on hitting its 30% clearance rate goal for overall cases, he is proud of his team for the rate on violent crime cases being solved.

"That's meaningful to me, it's meaningful to the men and women in our department because we know that we're making a difference in people's lives," Swing said. "That's something that is really impactful and that we're very passionate about because we know that is making a difference."

Swing also presented crime statistics that showed increases in things like property crime, which was up about 15% from 2021; traffic volume and collisions, which increased about 20% over last year; and catalytic converter thefts continuing to be a problem throughout the region.

Vice Mayor Jack Balch had asked Swing to provide some sort of advice for residents that could help stop catalytic converter thefts. Swing said that apart from parking in well lit areas and trying to secure the catalytic converter, there's not much anyone can do.

"There are a lot of guns out on the street right now being used in crimes and people are being shot at for trying to confront somebody stealing a catalytic converter," Swing said. "What I would say is, it's property. At the end of the day, people can buy a new catalytic converter."

Balch also echoed another worry that was initially brought up by Councilmember Valerie Arkin regarding the non-emergency response times.

According to the report, the average emergency response time in 2022 was 4 minutes 19 seconds — non-emergency response time averaged 23 minutes 03 seconds.

The city's established police response time goals are 4 minutes for emergencies and 20 minutes for non-emergency calls for service. Compared to 2020, emergency response time was 3 minutes and 43 seconds and non emergency response time was 18 minutes and 35 seconds.

While members of the council didn't have much to say about the emergency response times, they were worried about the latter. Swing said there was not much he could do given that a lot of his patrol teams are running at minimum staffing.

Another point that Arkin brought up was that she wanted to see more data in the future regarding drug offenses — particularly on opioids such as methamphetamine and fentanyl, which Swing said PPD sees on a regular basis in Pleasanton, although not as much as other cities.

"(Out of) 6,843 opioid deaths in California, 5,722 are fentanyl," Arkin said, stating data from a California Department of Public Health report from 2021. "It's a real problem in our state. That's almost 80% of the total opioid deaths. Just in the 15- to 19-age group there were 224 deaths in 2021, just related to fentanyl. So it is definitely an issue."

The last main highlight was regarding the amount of 5150 or 5585 involuntary holds in both the city and at the school district.

The number of involuntary, 72-hour holds, dropped significantly in the school district to nine over 2022 compared to the average of four per month in 2015 to 2019 timeframe. In regards to the city overall, the department saw a 50% reduction of those holds — from 371 in 2021 to 186 in 2022.

"I know that it's a priority of you as the council. It's a priority of me as a chief and of all of our officers to do what we can to limit the number of 5150 or psychiatric commitments, and I'm very proud of my team and very proud of our SROs (school resource officers)," Swing said.

He also mentioned that with clinicians having joined the Alternate Response Unit in January, he hopes that number goes down even more.

In other business:

- Bryan Godbe, president of Godbe Research, presented the results of a police department community survey which showed that, while the majority of Pleasanton residents, business owners and visitors feel safe and trust the PPD, there is still some work to be done regarding younger people.

The survey, according to Godbe, was conducted from Jan. 24 through Jan. 31 via email, text and phone.

He said 818 residents, 127 business owners or managers and 115 visitors to the city completed the survey.

The visitors, he said, were from Danville, Dublin Livermore and San Ramon who have visited the city in the last five years.

"I'm super proud and not surprised by these results," said PPD Capt. Kurt Schlehber. "This is years upon years of building a strong culture with the men and women that serve this community in your police department."

But even with over 90% of the respondents saying that they feel safe in Pleasanton and over 80% of residents saying that they trust the department, one of the key takeaways from the presentation was that younger people do not trust the department as much.

According to the report, 54.3% of this demographic felt the department was trustworthy.

"What we're seeing in other cities as well is that older residents, who are more familiar with the police department, have higher levels of trust than younger residents," Godbe said. "Not that there's a problem there, but it does highlight a communication need to reach out to the younger residents and help gain that trust."

Schlehber said this was an area that PPD can work on doing more outreach to build that trust.

- PPD Lt. Reginaldo "Roy" Gamez and Capt. Larry Cox presented the department's annual military equipment use report, which included information on the amount of times certain equipment was used and why the department says it continues to need certain tools.

Assembly Bill 481, which was signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom in September 2021, requires police departments in California to keep a running list of what is defined as military equipment for oversight by local governing bodies.

Military equipment, as defined by the bill, does not necessarily indicate equipment used by the military. Items deemed by the bill to be "military equipment" include robotic vehicles, armored rescue vehicles, tear gas, less-than-lethal weapons such as beanbag shotguns, 40-millimeter projectiles and noise/flash diversionary devices.

The Pleasanton City Council approved an ordinance last year that continued allowing the city's police department to use military or specialized equipment for regular and promotional use, such as with the Armored Rescue Vehicle (ARV).

According to Gamez, the ARV was utilized a total of 11 times last year.

Other equipment that he touched

on were diversionary devices that were utilized twice; drones or robots, which were used 14 times; less lethal launchers, which were utilized twice; less lethal shotguns, which were used twice; and rifles, which were used once.

Gamez highlighted an incident where the ARV was deployed to a local gas station to respond to an individual who was passed out in his car with a loaded gun in plain sight.

"The individual was not complying with commands; he wasn't responding to any commands over the PA. So the ARV was deployed in that incident with the PA and was given multiple commands," he said. "However, still with the PA there, he was not responsive. So the officers utilized the less lethal shotgun to break out the rear window, which got the person's attention. Fortunately, that was a peaceful resolution and the person went to jail for various gun charges and narcotic charges."

The council accepted and renewed the military equipment policy to have the department coincide with state law. As part of that renewed

policy report, PPD also had to include its future planned requests for new equipment.

The department intends on purchasing 13 Daniel Defense model MK18 rifles as general replacement for rifles currently in use, two Penn Arms 40 millimeter multi-shot launchers and 40 millimeter impact sponge baton munitions, according to the report.

Councilmember Jeff Nibert, along with Arkin, asked PPD about their practices on assessing their equipment and determining what items to get rid of or which to retain.

"We constantly evaluate the equipment that we have," Cox said after Gamez pointed out a wall breaching item that the department is working on removing from its equipment list.

"Some of these pieces of equipment, honestly, we hope to never use," Cox added. "We hope we have it for extreme circumstances and that we don't need it until we really need it, but we need to be highly trained on those pieces of equipment for when a really bad situation takes place." ■

We're looking for a few interns

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

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Tri-Valley law enforcement strives to drive out catalytic converter theft

Efforts aimed at deterring rising crime include etching events, collaborative investigation, legislation

BY CIERRA BAILEY

During one of the few sunny, dry days the Tri-Valley saw in early March, dozens of cars lined up just outside the auto shop at Las Positas College in hopes of having their vehicles' catalytic converters engraved.

The Livermore Police Department (LPD) and the college's Automotive Technology Program teamed up to host their second "Etch and Catch," a free, first come-first served community event that aims to deter catalytic converter theft by etching a vehicle's license plate number and spray-painting the police department's logo onto the part.

A catalytic converter's intended purpose is to convert the hazardous exhaust from a vehicle's engine into less harmful gasses. The recent rise in the thefts of these devices is largely attributed to the precious metals contained inside of them such as rhodium, platinum or palladium.

According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), the value of these metals has skyrocketed with rhodium averaging \$10,700, palladium at \$1,568 and platinum at \$1,010 per troy ounce,

making catalytic converters even more desirable to thieves who typically receive \$50 to \$250 per catalytic converter they turn in to recycling facilities.

"I think the biggest thing to highlight is that this is not just Tri-Valley-related, it's not just Livermore-related, this is actually a global epidemic and it's difficult to combat on a lot of different levels and it's hard to provide statistics on it but it definitely affects everywhere and we're trying to do what we can to make our impact on it," said LPD Officer Taylor Burruss at the March 2 etching event.

Burruss' assertion that the rise in catalytic converter theft extends beyond the Tri-Valley and even the Bay Area resonated with me as I recalled the ear-splitting sound — almost like running metal through a blender, but worse — that came from a rental car my family was using during a weekend getaway in Southern California in December of 2021.

The car had been targeted by catalytic converter thieves overnight while parked just outside our hotel. Unbeknownst to us, we happened to be parked in the one stall that was

blocked from the view of security cameras thanks to a large tree on the property, according to hotel staff.

As residents of the Bay Area at the time, we were familiar with the increase in these crimes at home but were not aware the uptick was widespread and that we'd be at risk while on vacation.

Livermore resident Greg Healy's catalytic converter was also stolen while in another part of the state. In an interview during the "Etch and Catch" event, Healy said his Ford pickup truck was parked in a friend's driveway in Carmichael — a suburb of Sacramento County — when it was targeted back in January.

He said his friend was on his way out to the post office in the truck when he heard that distinct sound upon starting the ignition and knew right away what had happened.

"I went and took a look underneath it and said 'Yup, this took like a minute,'" Healy said. "Two quick cuts with a Sawzall and it was gone."

Sawzall is a popular brand of a power-driven reciprocating saw that is typically used for construction or household projects but has been identified as one of the most commonly used tools for catalytic converter theft along with pipe wrenches.

While the process of stealing the device may be quick and cheap, replacing it is anything but. Car owners could spend thousands to repair their vehicle after a catalytic converter is stolen. Healy said he paid \$1,200 to replace his and then spent another \$200 to have steel rods installed around it to make it more difficult to access.

"I don't want it to happen again, so I'm doing everything I can to keep it," Healy said, noting that



LPD Officer Taylor Burruss explains the etching process to a community member during the event.

getting it etched at the LPD event was another layer of protection to deter any future thieves. "I want them to look under there and say, 'nope' and move on," he said.

According to the NICB, California ranks as the No. 1 state for catalytic converter theft, followed by Texas, Washington, North Carolina and Minnesota to round out the top five. The agency sampled member company claims data to identify catalytic converter theft trends; however, officials noted that their analysis is not a complete reporting of all thefts and many go unreported altogether.

Based on the NICB's data, California reported the most catalytic converter thefts in 2021, accounting for 37% of all catalytic converter thefts throughout the country.

Pickup trucks like Healy's and SUVs like our rental car tend to be frequent targets for catalytic

converter theft because their higher clearance from the ground makes them easier to access as well as delivery vehicles, according to the NICB. Hybrids are also a major target as they contain two catalytic converters and as a hybrid, the converters tend to see less corrosion than those of other vehicles with equal miles.

Brian Hagopian, the Automotive Technology Program coordinator at Las Positas, said he encourages "every Prius on the road and every Honda Accord on the road" to be vigilant about protecting their cars from catalytic converter theft. Hagopian's students etched more



CIERRA BAILEY

LPC student Ignacio Gaytan spray paints the Livermore PD logo onto a vehicle's catalytic converter.



CIERRA BAILEY

An example of a catalytic converter used by LPD to demonstrate what the device looks like and how it looks after being etched.



LPC student Bradley Wynn etches the license plate



LPD

the March "Etch and Catch".

than 170 vehicles of all types during their collaborative event with LPD.

In addition to taking mere minutes to complete, catalytic converter theft is also difficult for law enforcement to investigate. "It's not what you know, it's what you can prove," said Officer Ryan Tujague of the Pleasanton Police Department. He noted that patrol officers may stop a vehicle and see multiple catalytic converters inside of it and maybe even a Sawzall but it's not illegal to possess any of those items. "We have to catch them in the process of doing it in order to say, 'No, you stole this,'" he said.

Tujague said what Pleasanton

patrol units will often do during a situation that they suspect might be catalytic converter theft is ask the person in possession of the parts where they came from and why they have them and if they can't provide a viable reason at the time, the officers will collect the parts for safekeeping and require the person to show proof that the parts belong to them to retrieve them.

From March of 2022 to this March, Pleasanton has had about 224 thefts of catalytic converters, up from 167 for the same time frame the year prior. Tujague said he believes the uptick is partially attributed to the coronavirus pandemic and the increase of people working from home in recent years. "Vehicles were sitting for some people — and still for some people — for weeks on end and so it's just readily available for criminals to come and just take the catalytic converter," he said.

While catalytic converter thefts usually occur at night, thieves have become more brazen, committing these crimes in broad daylight.

Pleasanton PD has not yet hosted an event like "Etch and Catch" in Livermore but Tujague said that they are working on organizing one of their own in the near future. He said these types of events make the catalytic converters more identifiable which in turn helps make it easier for law enforcement to recognize when they have been stolen.

"If we end up making a car stop on patrol and they see the license plate on a catalytic converter with Livermore PD's spray-painted badge on it — or another agency how they do it — then we can follow up and investigate and that's how we ultimately catch these thieves," Tujague said.

LPD and PPD previously had a task force dedicated to investigating catalytic converter theft, which led to the takedown of a catalytic converter theft ring with the arrests of 30 suspects, the recovery of 50 catalytic converters and the seizure of \$91,000 in cash. Although the task force has since disbanded due to staffing and resource shortages, the agencies still continue to collaborate with each other as well as other departments serving the Tri-Valley.

Sergeant Mark Holland of the San Ramon Police Department echoed Tujague's sentiments about the difficulty of investigating catalytic converter thefts. He noted that while their department has focused its energy on detection, enforcement, investigation and prosecution, there could be a possibility of arranging an etching type of event if there is real interest from the community.

Holland also highlighted specific ways in which Tri-Valley agencies work collectively to pursue these particular thefts and other crimes on a regional level.

"Law enforcement agencies work together through various systems to share information about recent cases, suspect vehicles and the identity of suspects. Every morning we



CIERRA BAILEY

Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on March 2, cars of all types lined up outside of LPC's auto shop to have their catalytic converters etched.

exchange activity logs with Police Departments in the Tri-Valley," Holland said. "We are also part of an elaborate state-wide information sharing database, which generates crime flyers and broadcasts them to agencies state-wide. Many agencies have also installed and upgraded camera systems in their communities to better monitor and detect stolen vehicles and suspect vehicles as they enter the city," he added.

On an even wider regional level, officials from the Alameda County Sheriff's office said that their Crime Reduction Unit is in the process of working with local businesses to develop a program that would hopefully provide free etching on catalytic converters for identification purposes.

"Additionally, they have been in communication with a local insurance agent who has seen claims skyrocket because of this issue. Law enforcement and insurance agents alike are working to curb this issue, which has become a pain point for victims,"

ACSO officials said in an email.

In 2021, Alameda County saw 413 catalytic converter theft reports and 524 in 2022 — an increase of 26%.

Amid the nationwide rise of catalytic converter theft, several pieces of legislation have been introduced in California and other states to address the issue.

Two California bills aimed at cracking down on catalytic converter theft that went into effect at the start of this year are AB 1740 and SB 1087, which both affect how used catalytic converters can be sold.

AB 1740 requires catalytic converter recyclers to include additional information in the written record such as year, make and model of the vehicle from which the catalytic converter was removed along with a copy of the title of the vehicle from which the device was removed.

SB 1087 prohibits people from buying a used catalytic converter from anyone other than certain specified sellers, including an

automobile dismantler, an automotive repair dealer, or someone with documentation proving they are the lawful owner of the part.

This year, the NICB said it anticipates "at least 11 states to introduce new legislation to either establish new regulations on scrap yards, strengthen current regulations, increase penalties, and/or address problems identified with recently enacted laws."

Those 11 states include Idaho, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, South Carolina, Texas and Wyoming.

"At the federal level, Congressman Jim Baird (R-Indiana) introduced the 'Preventing Auto Recycling Theft Act.' The Act is intended to reduce catalytic converter thefts by marking identifying information on catalytic converters, addressing how the parts are purchased, and strengthening enforceability of catalytic converter theft for local law enforcement," NICB officials said, noting that the agency worked closely with Baird to develop the legislation.

While local law enforcement officials say it's still early to gauge whether the California bills have made a significant impact in the amount of catalytic converter thefts occurring, there is a sense of optimism that these efforts along with their own individual department strategies and changes being made at the manufacturer level will together help deter and decrease these crimes.

LPD is planning another etching event in May and there may be additional opportunities throughout the year as well as in other communities. However, in addition to participating in these deterrence measures, officials advise vehicle owners to park in garages and well-lit areas when possible, keep home and vehicle security systems armed and consider investing in a catalytic converter anti-theft device. ■



CIERRA BAILEY

te number onto a vehicle's catalytic converter.



CIERRA BAILEY

Students of LPC's Automotive Technology Program etched more than 170 catalytic converters at the campus auto shop on March 2.

'Inflatable Sculpture' integrates science, technology and art

Artist to bring innovative, unique workshop to Livermore teens in April

By NICOLE GONZALES

Livermore Valley Arts is set to hold an innovative artistic workshop designed to give Livermore teens the opportunity to design, create and construct works of art with other teens.

Artist in Residence Catherine "Cat" Judge will introduce her "Inflatable Sculpture Workshop - Making Art Together program" for youth ages 13-18 in April. It will integrate science, technology and art, all while teaching about collaboration and creative processes.

The workshop will be held during spring break, April 5 - 7, at Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore, with a final showcase of completed work April 8 at the Bankhead Plaza, 2400 First St., Livermore.

"Inflatable Sculpture Workshop allows participants to experience creating large-scale public artworks from scratch," said Judge. "They go from a sketch to a scale model to a sculpture large enough to actually walk through and experience as an architectural space."

Judge, a Boston-based artist, conceived the program so students could have creative control over their artwork while expressing their innermost feelings.

"(When designing the workshop), we talked about how one can offer young people the opportunity to express themselves," she said. "I hope this will be a very empowering process for students."

Throughout her career, Judge has been involved in a number of educational art and collaborative projects. Judge said what she finds most touching about these programs is how the students can express themselves through the given medium and share cathartic experiences together.

"There's something about teaching the creative process and opening students up to that, whether I'm working with young children, teens, adults or the elderly," Judge explained. "They're opening their hearts and intellects up by creating something that's important to them. There's a tremendous opportunity for all of us to learn from them."

In the Inflatable Sculpture Workshop, Judge hopes students will find their own creative voice and see the power in broadcasting that. The specific theme will be the



CATHERINE JUDGE

Scenes from previous 'Inflatable Sculpture' workshops done by Catherine "Cat" Judge show what Livermore teens can expect when Judge brings the program to Livermore in April.

natural environment and concerns for the climate.

"Students are charged with the mission of creating meaningful works of art for their community," Judge said. "I think it's really important for students to make work that's about their experience and about them, to make art that reflects what they want to express."

Judge explained how her graduate experience at MIT inspired her curiosity about inflatable works of art. During her time there, she was involved in an art and technology program known as ACT in which she studied under well-known German artist Otto Piene.

"I always found that there was something engaging when you're offering these beautiful objects for the community to interact with," she reflected. "I began to piece together that it would be possible to do this with groups of teenagers."

Anne Giancola, visual arts and education manager with Livermore Valley Arts, spoke about the workshop's significance to the local community and what she hopes the community will gain from it.

"LVA is interested in bringing national talent through artist-in-residence programming and this was a great opportunity to bring this workshop to the Tri-Valley area,"



Giancola said. "Having Catherine run a teen workshop to influence youth to appreciate the power of creativity is an ideal way to share ideas and foster collaboration with youth participation."

Giancola said the workshop gets at the core meaning behind art creation, "it's people working individually and together to comment on their environment and emotions and to share this with those around us."

The LVA manager echoes Judge's

feelings about artistic expression, she too hopes students will learn the power and freedom in creating works of art and then sharing with the public.

"The workshop is creating something large and impactful that is completely from the voice of the students involved and that it is beyond art that is constricted by time in a classroom or to not make a mess," Giancola said. "The end result will be an amazing large-format, group

project that can be shared with the community."

In addition to creating works of art, participants will learn about the history of making public art statements and the power they have to make a difference.

To find out more information about the Bothwell Arts Center or to register for the Inflatable Sculpture Workshop, visit the LVA website Livermorearts.org or call (925) 373-6800. ■

Museum on Main photography exhibit showcases Native life and culture

Works of well-known native photographer Dugan Aguilar on display

BY NICOLE GONZALES

A new traveling photography exhibition coming to downtown Pleasanton will feature a collection of intimate and raw images documenting Native American life in California.

From the work of photographer Dugan Aguilar, “She Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar” will be at Pleasanton’s Museum on Main from April 5 through May 27.

The late photographer Aguilar was of Mountain Maidu, Pit River and Walker River Paiute native descent. Over the span of four decades Aguilar had focused his work on capturing Native and Indigenous cultures throughout the state of California.

Originally based on a book of the same name published by Aguilar, “She Sang Me a Good Luck Song” has been shown across the state.

“Aguilar’s work brings a sense of humanity and connection. Images from this collection give an intimate look into the lives of Native Americans in California,” said Museum on Main curator, Ken MacLennan.

The exhibition comes to Pleasanton as part of Exhibit Envoy, a Museum on Main program that partners with statewide traveling exhibits to display in the Tri-Valley.

Exhibit Envoy focuses on work that highlights innovative, cultural topics and California history.

Aguilar’s work includes 28 portrait, landscape and still-life visuals of his subjects. Many of his photographs feature native basketweavers,

traditional dances and motorcyclists.

“His works can also educate us on California history. Many of the diverse Native Indian cultures shown in his images carry big historical and cultural impacts,” MacLennan said.

Throughout his career Aguilar also worked as a staff photographer for the California Indian Storytellers Association and the California Indian Basketweavers’ Association.

“Viewers will have the chance to see art and culture from communities they may not be familiar with or know little about,” MacLennan added. “It’s a great chance to learn about Native lives in California through amazing, thoughtful photographs.”

In a press release, educator and former colleague of Aguilar’s, Larry



DUGAN AGUILAR

“Headdress, Maidu dancer” was taken in the early 2000s by Dugan Aguilar. An exhibit of Aguilar’s work will be at Pleasanton’s Museum on Main April 5 through May 27.

McNeil, expressed his admiration for the work showcased in “She Sang Me a Good Luck Song”.

“Dugan’s photography embodies the ancient spirits of giving and sharing,” McNeil said. “It’s visual poetry that resonates through time with the land and the people gently, yet assertive. (It is) beautiful and insightful

photographic storytelling for all people of the world.”

An opening reception for the exhibition will take place April 5 from 5 to 7 p.m.

To find more information on the Museum on Main and its upcoming exhibitions, visit Museumonmain.org. ■

Livermore’s First Church of Christ, Scientist, marks centennial

Members reflect on community impact and historical significance

BY NICOLE GONZALES

Members and staff of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, are celebrating its centennial and reflecting on this milestone.

For over 100 years, members have congregated, praised, studied and persevered together as a group.

The significance of the church’s 100-year milestone is not lost on any of its members.

“Our church has members who are second-, third- and fourth-generation Christian Scientists, as well as those who learned about Christian Science as an adult,” Margaret Pereira, current member of the church, said. “Our church’s milestone anniversary celebrates the continuity of a community of practicing Christian Scientists in the Tri-Valley.”

The church’s main teachings center around healing, Pereira said.

Having been involved with the church for the majority of her life, Pereira hopes the group will continue to assemble and pray for communal healing for the next 100 years and beyond.

“In our future, we’ll continue to bless Livermore and the Tri-Valley, as a light on a hill,” Pereira said. “Our 100-year milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the thousands of healings that have taken place during this time and to look forward to another 100-plus years of healings in our community.”

The historic church celebrated the official anniversary on March 1. Currently located at Third and South N Street in the downtown Livermore area, is a branch of The

Mother Church, First Church of Christ, Scientist, originally based in Boston.

Over the years the organization has faced many challenges to better establish themselves, such as purchasing land, being adopted by the main branch and adding new programs.

In 1923, Livermore residents began to meet for weekly Christian Science sermons. At the time, most sermons took place in the homes of the various dedicated members.

The group was not recognized by The Mother Church’s main branch until 1931.

In December 1948, members pooled together their funds and purchased what is now their current property for \$1,500, or almost \$200,000 in today’s currency.

By 1960, the church had achieved an official branch status with their mother organization. Later that year, members opted to expand their services by creating a Sunday School wing and Reading Room.

A major remodel was completed on the main building in 1997, changing the exterior of the church significantly.

Melanie Yelamanchili, a member and Reading Room librarian, explained that Christian Science was established in 1866 by Mary Baker Eddy. In the decades that followed, practicing members desired to start up new locations in their own cities.

“When branches were initially forming all over the world it was generally certain one would be near where you lived, at least in metropolitan areas,” Yelamanchili explained. “In this case, our church

draws primarily from Livermore and Pleasanton, although we have members as far as Tracy, Stockton, Danville and Clayton.”

“100 years in downtown Livermore does cause for reflection and gratitude,” Yelamanchili added. “It’s nice to know our church is close enough to many people to easily attend. Because we are in downtown Livermore and also in a neighborhood, it’s very accessible with easy parking.”

Yelamanchili said the church has adapted to modern times and, while modification may be inevitable, their main message stays the same.

“The idea of church remains the same for all time, that is a place to share one’s love for God and man,” Yelamanchili said. “In this digital age we are in, it’s possible certain aspects of our church services will shift to keep with the current, but our view is largely that coming together in person weekly to share church is a very important element.”

Given the church’s long list of programs, regular Sunday morning services, Sunday school for youth and young adults, Wednesday testimonies and more, members must devote a large amount of time and attention.

“Christian Science branch churches are 100% overseen by its members, and run in a democratic fashion,” Yelamanchili said. “It takes consistent dedication from the members to meet the demands of having (these) services.”

Despite the hard work that go into maintaining the church and its services, Yelamanchili describes it as a labor of love for all members.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First Church of Christ, Scientist, sits on the corner of Third and South N Street in downtown Livermore.

“We have a lot of fun too. We cannot stress enough that all are welcome to this church. Each one of our members is grateful for Christian Science in their lives. Our church is a symbol of that gratitude,” Yelamanchil said.

Robin Barben, a longtime member of the church, echoed many of the reflections shared by Pereira and Yelamanchili.

“It means so much to me to know that over these 100 years our members and their children learned to treat one’s neighbor with kindness, good will, understanding and respect,” Barben said. “For a century we sent our children, or (we) were the children, who lived in this community with a desire to express love instead of hate, and to see through the hate to find that good is innately there.”

Barben feels that fellow members strive to pray for the City of Livermore and give back to its communities. Coming together with this goal has also benefited those members.

“We have become more active and unified in our prayers for this community,” Barben said. “Our intention is to bless our community by

addressing some of the current and recent concerns. (This) has brought us not only closer together as members, but our hearts are changed, deepened and opened to want to be even more service to the needs of the people living here.”

“The needs of our community in Livermore have brought an expanded hope and confidence that prayers for other situations that seem impossible will be answered as well,” Barben added.

Upon deep reflection and discussion, First Church of Christ, Scientist, members share similar sentiment about the centennial anniversary — pride, devotion and joy.

This April, church organizers have planned a special talk from Christian Science Board of Lectureship member, Melanie Wahlberg. “Giving Freely of Ourselves, and what we all gain” takes place a 1 p.m. April 15.

Members have said the lecture is an opportunity for residents to learn more about Christian Science and its teachings.

To find out more about Livermore’s First Church of Christ, Scientist, visit the official website at Christiansciencechurchlivermore.com. ■

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Livermore police arrest man accused of stealing Little League equipment

A 29-year-old Livermore man was taken into custody this week for two alleged thefts of thousands of dollars in property.

Upon receiving a report from a school resource officer of an electric bicycle that was stolen from a high school student who'd secured it in the bike storage unit at his campus on March 16, officers with the Livermore Police Department (LPD) identified a suspect via surveillance footage, according to a statement from the department.

After serving a search warrant at the suspect's home on March 20, officers discovered property that had been reported stolen in a burglary at the Granada Little League fields at Max Baer Park on March 15, as well as other stolen property.

The stolen sports equipment was valued at \$3,500 and the e-bike was valued at \$2,400, according to police.

The suspect was taken into custody March 22 at a different residence,

after which police discovered stolen property from a number of other thefts, including two scooters, a credit card and three Ring cameras, with some of the property coming from a recent vehicle burglary. LPD staff is in the process of contacting all the victims.

The suspect is being held without bail on charges including grand theft, burglary, possession of stolen property and felony ammunition possession.

According to an announcement from LPD, the suspect "has an extensive criminal history and is known to Livermore Police," and was previously out on bail for two counts of felony stolen vehicle possession.

Police are asking anyone with more information to contact their anonymous tip line at (925) 371-4790.

—Jeanita Lyman

In other news

- BART police more than doubled the number of officers patrolling trains starting March 27 to address safety and quality of life issues, BART officials said.

BART police are deploying eight to 18 more officers on trains per shift in San Francisco and in BART's core service area. That's up from 10.

The increase is the largest deployment in 25 years if not the history of BART, BART Police Chief Ed Alvarez said at a press conference on Monday. The deployment will include K-9s.

BART officials said they are suspending fare enforcement at Embarcadero Station on weekday mornings so that fare inspectors and officers can patrol elsewhere. Patrols will occur all day.

BART ridership is down compared with pre-pandemic levels and safety may be the reason, said John Grubb, chief operating officer for the Bay Area Council, which represents the area's largest employers.

Those employers "rely on BART more than any other transit system to get their employees to and from work," Grubb added.

The drop in ridership threatens the financial well-being of BART, and doesn't appear to be due to the desire for remote work, he added. People are driving to work and using the ferry where ridership has nearly returned to pre-pandemic levels.

"BART has become very unsafe," Grubb said.

Grubb maintains that safety is the number one reason workers are not riding BART. He thinks the first step to making BART safer is deploying officers and security personnel.

Grubb said BART police need BART board members to back officers who enforce payment and the system's code of conduct, which includes not eating or smoking on BART and in the paid area of the system.

Riders also may see cleaner trains

and stations. BART officials are having trains cleaned more frequently and increasing the number of crews cleaning stations.

Recently, crews began cleaning train interiors twice as often as in the past. Cleaners are scrubbing cars when trains reach the end of a line and each night.

To make stations cleaner, BART is adding four more cleaning teams in the coming weeks. Station cleaning includes pressure washing stairwells and the busy areas of stations.

—Bay City News Service

- The Pleasanton Unified School District is asking parents and guardians to provide their thoughts and ideas on school safety through a school survey.

In that survey, PUSD will also be asking for residents to provide feedback on the city and district joint School Resource Officer program, which is a program that has been provided through the Pleasanton Police Department since 2002.

According to the district survey description, that information will be used to provide an update to the PUSD Board of Trustees in spring of this year and will help the district's efforts in school safety.

PUSD currently has two School Resource Officers that each have an office at either Amador Valley High School or Foothill High School. They also support all the other middle and elementary schools.

—Christian Trujano

- The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) is offering

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to people 16 years and older who either live or work in Livermore or Pleasanton.

The classes will be held in Pleasanton's Operations Service Center and the LPFD training grounds on Busch Road in Pleasanton from 6 to 9:30 p.m. every Thursday from April 20 to May 25.

"The CERT training is an opportunity for community members to learn about basic disaster preparedness and beyond," according to a post on the LPFD's Facebook page. "Through classroom and hands-on instruction, participants will learn about disaster preparedness and basic response related to fire safety, disaster medical operations and light search and rescue. The seven-session program also covers disaster psychology, terrorism, utilities and the mission of the CERT organization."

The classes will end with a drill that will put all the skills the participants have learned to the test.

"When a disaster such as a major earthquake strikes, emergency responders will be focused on the most critical emergencies," the Facebook post states. "Fortunately, there are many things that residents can do to help themselves, their families and the community around them, leading up to and following a disaster."

Pre-registration for the course is required. To register and get further details, call (925) 454-2361. You can also email questions to CERT@LPfire.org. ■

—Christian Trujano

Ignacio R. Sandoval

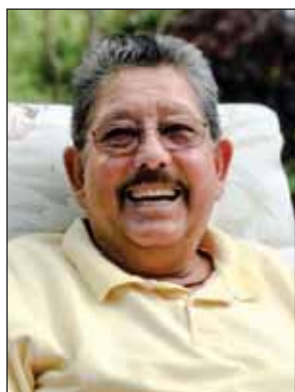
July 31, 1944 – March 15, 2023

Ignacio R. Sandoval (Tosh, Tacho), 78, passed away peacefully on March 15, 2023, in Pleasanton California. He was born in Pearsall Texas as the youngest of ten children to Guillermo and Maria Sandoval. The family moved to Livermore, California in the late 1940's. Tosh served in the Army during the Vietnam war as a PFC from 1965 to 1967. He was a laborer with the Laborers Union Local 304, working for John Buranis Construction and Kaiser Sand & Gravel before retiring in 2002. Tosh will be remembered for his kindness and giving heart.

Tosh had an endless amount of love for his family & cherished every moment with them. Whether that consisted of going to Lake San Antonio from 2003 to 2013, golfing with his brothers after retirement, or making his much desired Enchilada Casserole to share with the family. He was a Loyal Die Hard Raider Fan and he also found lots of enjoyment in rooting for the Warriors.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father as well as eight of his siblings. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Patricia / Tish, children Rene (Gary), Rena, David (Amanda), Kevin (Denise) and Kelly (Steve), his brother Sandy (Marie) as well as eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Services will be held at Callaghan Mortuary on May 12th at 11:00 am in Livermore. Burial at St. Michaels Cemetery with a Celebration of Life immediately following at the Robert E. Livermore Center.



PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

March 23

Burglary

- 10:29 a.m. on the 2700 block of Hopyard Road
- 8:50 p.m. on the 1400 block of Germano Way

Fraud

- 10:41 a.m. on the 4000 block of Stanley Boulevard

Theft

- 2:59 p.m. on the 4000 block of Vineyard Avenue; theft from auto
- 3:59 p.m. on the 2000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 4:46 p.m. on the 5700 block of Pleasanton Hill Road; catalytic converter theft

March 22

Theft

- 9:21 a.m. on the 7700 block of Driftwood Way
- 2:39 p.m. on the 5500 block of Sunol Boulevard
- 4:48 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Vandalism

- 8:37 p.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Burglary

- 9:09 p.m. on the 2300 block of Silver Oaks Lane

Assault/battery

- 9:35 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

March 21

Fraud

- 11:36 a.m. on the 100 block of Mission Drive

Theft

- 12:23 p.m. on the 4100 block of Rennellwood Way
- 4:35 p.m. on the 6100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft
- 6:49 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 8:10 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Warrant arrest

- 11:13 p.m. on the 5900 block of Owens Drive

March 20

Fraud

- 1:04 p.m. on the 4900 block of Wingate Drive

Warrant arrest

- 5:39 p.m. on the 800 block of Main Street

Theft from auto

- 7:01 p.m. on the 3200 block of West Lagoon Road

March 19

Theft

- 9:06 a.m. on the 2000 block of Eilene Drive

- 12:36 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 5:24 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Assault/battery

- 9:45 p.m. on the 6200 block of Alvord Way

Trespassing/prowling

- 10:00 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

March 18

DUI

- 2:46 a.m. on Sunol Boulevard/Bernal Avenue

Theft

- 10:00 a.m. on the 7400 block of Sundrop Court; auto theft
- 10:05 a.m. on the 4000 block of Muirwood Drive
- 12:01 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting
- 2:34 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive
- 3:07 p.m. on the 4100 block of Amberwood Circle; theft from auto
- 3:58 p.m. on the 7400 block of Laurel Court; theft from auto

Warrant arrest

- 11:16 a.m. on the 3800 block of Vine Street

Vandalism

- 3:55 p.m. on the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

GUEST OPINION

By SUSAN HOUGHTON

Startling increase in autism rates reaffirms need for housing solutions

It was an alarming headline — even for parents, educators and paraprofessionals who are experiencing the day-to-day reality.

On March 24, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced autism rates dramatically increased, continuing a decades long trend. If you missed it, here's a quick recap: In 2020, one in 36 8-year-olds nationwide had autism — up from one in 44 in 2018 and one in 150 in 2000.

Unfortunately, in California, this translates to one in 22 8-year-olds diagnosed — and more than 133,000 residents who meet the autism spectrum criteria cited by California's Department of

Developmental Services (DDS).

And that's just autism. Add in the statistics from those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and California has more than 402,698 Regional Center clients with active diagnoses and caseloads.

Even if the world of special needs has not touched you directly, you may have an extended family member or close friend caring for someone with a disability. Society's mantra of "six degrees of separation" is probably more like three degrees when it comes to knowing someone with I/DD.

Parents often struggle to understand the "why and how" their own child became afflicted — and one can argue whether early or improved

diagnoses support some of the startling increases. However, that does not change the reality: There are individuals with I/DD living in the Tri-Valley who need programs, housing and life-long solutions. Are we doing all we can to help?

Dedicated educators and individualized education plans (IEP's) have always formed the basis for early support via intervention strategies and special education. Programs like the city of Pleasanton's RADD program (Recreation for Adults with Developmental Disabilities), school district WorkAbility opportunities, Special Olympics and summer camping experiences are also vital to helping I/DD individuals thrive.

But with approximately seven in 10 adults with I/DD still living with their parents, finding permanent housing solutions is just as paramount. It is also the fundamental reason Sunflower Hill was



created in 2013.

Where will individuals with I/DD live after their parents are gone? How can we create affordable opportunities that provide life-long housing solutions?

Thankfully, with the passage of Senate Bill 812 in 2011, cities began analyzing I/DD needs as part of their Housing Element plans. And it was not a moment too soon, as the Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) later cited there were more than 3,150 individuals with I/DD living in the Tri-Valley and approximately 1,045 residential units would be needed by 2023.

At Sunflower Hill, we are extremely grateful for the public-private partnerships, city prioritization and community support that enabled us to create affordable and independent I/DD residential living at Irby Ranch in Pleasanton.

Organizations like REACH and traditional affordable housing providers have provided similar residential gains. But, simply put, we've fallen short in reaching the 2023 goal of 1,045 I/DD housing

opportunities in the Tri-Valley.

As we celebrate Sunflower Hill's 10-year anniversary in 2023 and enter the next decade, this vision remains paramount. We want a world where people of all abilities are welcomed, empowered, and valued — with an opportunity to live as affordably and independently as possible.

Transitioning from the nationally designated Developmental Disabilities Awareness month of March to Autism Awareness in April gives us all an opportunity to fully absorb what that might mean. If the past is prologue, one thing is certain: I/DD rates will continue to increase, and more families will struggle to find housing and program solutions.

The time to plan for that is now. We welcome all in our greater community to join us.

Susan Houghton is the founder of Sunflower Hill, a Pleasanton-based nonprofit creating places and spaces where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live, work and thrive. Her son Robby is one of 31 individuals now living at Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch. ■

Pleasanton Weekly

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LETTERS

Voters made the right decision

Regarding Gina Channell Wilcox (column) Around the Valley — Illogical to absurd.

In the last paragraph, she asks "do the residents agree with the direction of the council majority?"

Five months ago, we had an election where three (Brown, Testa and Nibert) of the four council members referenced in the article were elected. I believe the majority of Pleasantonians have spoken and trust we made the right decision for our city council representation.

In two years, there will be another election where we can make that decision once again.

Most of us know the Weekly did not support two elected members of the council that you are attacking in your article. Most of us would like to keep the Pleasanton politics to Pleasanton voters and not from those biased voices who do not live within our community...

—Steven Berberich

Editor's note: According to campaign finance documents, Steven Berberich is the treasurer of the Julie Testa for City Council 2022 campaign.

Lack of transparency and controls is appalling

Despite Pleasanton Laserfiche records indicating the city council only authorized a single \$6000 payment to the Chamber of Commerce for co-sponsorship of

Leadership Pleasanton (Resolution 97-74) in 1997, it appears Pleasanton has been funneling ever-increasing funds without annual resolution re-authorizations for nearly 25 years, including sending \$10,000 checks for Chamber "Tech Showcases/Fairs/Expos" (Res. 00-71A, 03-81).

In 2004, after the Chamber published city employees such as the Pleasanton Police and Livermore-Pleasanton fire chiefs' names (Timothy Neal, Stewart Gary) on a brochure concerning their Political Action Committee (BACPAC), I had no idea that the city has been sending continuous payments to the Chamber for the last 18 years.

Why? No authorization resolution approvals appear on Laserfiche after Deborah McKeenan/Tom Pico left the city government.

Fortunately, the Pleasanton City Council's Julie Testa has seen similar antics before. I previously served with her on a committee to examine PUSD's cash-out re-funding, including a Certificates of Participation refinancing that cost PUSD a whopping \$5 million more than was disclosed.

I am appalled by not only the lack of municipal transparency and internal controls, but also wasting taxpayer money and Pleasanton/Livermore staff resources on corporate "mixers." Meanwhile, even after two decades, long-promised projects like the city's Youth Center have never materialized.

What's next? It's time to stop the secret disbursements, restore the wasted funds to the city's coffers, disclose who exactly the city is paying via a consent calendar

PUSD-like "warrant" process, and cease using public safety staff (Police, Livermore JPA-Fire) for non-public safety purposes.

—Anne Fox

Column should be required reading for voters

The recent column by Publisher Gina Channell Wilcox regarding the Pleasanton City Council should be required reading for Pleasanton voters.

The city council majority says it is concerned about spending tax money and cancels any plans to look further at improving two very popular downtown parks then moves forward to spend \$6 million on a skateboard park when there are two such parks in Pleasanton.

Next a council member urges the council to look at finding more revenue for the city. That would most likely be new taxes.

What am I missing?

—Doug Miller

Majority focused on pet projects, settling scores

I'm writing to wholeheartedly agree with the points Gina Channell Wilcox laid out in her recent piece titled "Around the Valley: From illogical to absurd." As she eloquently outlined, the priorities of our mayor and City Council majority are, indeed, absurd.

Watching their meetings is an exercise in pure frustration. They'll spend hours questioning the need for a leadership program with over 30 years of success — that comes at minimal cost to our City — then casually reject a master plan for parks with years of planning by community members. Mind you, this is the same group who recently took \$2M out of our city's rainy day fund to support their preferred pet projects. Pet projects that are orders or magnitude larger than the cost of Leadership Pleasanton.

And don't get me started on how many hours I've watched this crew complain about our state's housing policies, but then fail to utter a single word about the very real crisis facing residents and workers in our city. This is a crisis impacting their very own kids — one who told me that their own daughter was "struggling to afford rent" in a more affordable city — only to then say with a straight face that they didn't "believe that building more homes has anything to do with the cost of homes."

Pet projects, settling scores, and a stubborn refusal to address reality — while then denigrating anyone who dares question their "leadership" — that's how our City Council's majority operates.

I'd be embarrassed for our city, if I wasn't so infuriated by it all.

—Dean Wallace

What's your opinion?

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



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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Amador Valley Comp Cheer earns title for second year

Also: Amador boys' volleyball team hands Foothill its first loss of the season

By DENNIS MILLER

It is tough enough to win a national title in any sport, but to get to the top of the mountain, then come back the next year and win it all again is just short of impossible.

That's just what the Amador Valley Competition Cheer team did recently at the USA Spirit Nationals in Anaheim, where they once again captured the Varsity Show Medium Division title.

Last year they charged from behind to win the title while this time it was all about holding on from the lead and beating out Santa Fe High (Whittier, CA) to take home the trophy.

The Dons were led by captains Sam Richards and Megan Jagoe along with Seniors Savannah Harper and Lauren Moore.

Amador/Foothill volleyball

In what has become one of the top Amador/Foothill rivalries, the boys' volleyball teams battled once again, with the Dons pulling out the 25-23, 25-18, 19-25, 26-24 win.

It was the first loss of the season for the Falcons and kept the Dons right behind Foothill.

The Dons edged out a 25-23 win in the first set and then coasted to a 25-18 win in the second.

The Falcons' grit was on full display as they rallied to take the third set, 25-19. The fourth set went back and forth as the Dons took a big early lead before Foothill went into gear again and stormed back to take a 24-22 lead.

The Dons rallied back as Luke Melvin served out the match and Tyler Homes came up with a huge



AVCC

The Amador Valley Competition Cheer team achieved what is nearly impossible by earning a national title two years in a row.

block to help Amador secure a 26-24 nail-biter.

The Dons were paced by Nate Clinton (24 kills), Max Riter (11 kills, 14 digs), Parker Brookhart (11 digs) while Colin Bowers and Bryce Nohava effectively shared the workload at setter (23 and 19 assists, respectively).

For Foothill, the highlights came from Landen Meonske (26 assists, 10 digs, 7 kills), Kayan Vohra (10 kills, 3 blocks), and Zach Seraj (13 receptions, 11 digs, 6 kills).

In the second match of the week for Amador, the Dons fell to Dublin 25-23, 20-25, 25-15 and 27-25.

In defeat, the Dons were led by Clinton (20 kills, 7 digs) Bryce Nohava (8 kills, 25 assists and 11 digs) and Spencer Thiel with three blocks in the middle.

In the second match of the week the Falcons came through with a 25-21, 25-22, 25-16 win over Granada.

Highlights came from Yun Bae (13 assists, 6 digs), Noah Mitzenmacher (12 digs, 3 assists), and Cameron Hitchan (3 kills, 3 blocks).

Amador swimming

The Dons hosted Livermore on March 23 and took home the wins in all four divisions.

The varsity girls won 134-35, with the varsity boys bringing home a 139-23 win. On the JV level the

Dons took the girls 123-41, with the boys winning 133-24.

Some of the highlights are as follows:

Varsity Girls: Rylee Hutchinson (Fr.) won the 200 and 500 free in NCS automatic qualifying times of 1:56.44 and 5:06.10, respectively. She was also part of the winning 200 medley (swam free leg) and 400 free relays.

Varsity Boys: Hayden Tupper (Sr.) won the 200 free in NCS automatic qualifying time of 1:45.14. He also won the 100 fly in 53.47, which is three-tenths off of NCS automatic qualifying time. He was also part of the winning 200 medley and led off the winning 400 free relay with an NCS automatic qualifying time of 47:62.

JV Girls: Alissa Wang (Fr.) won the 200 and 500 free, 2:13.50 (time was good enough to finish third in the varsity race) and 6:18.78.

JV Boys: Will Campbell (So.) won the 200 and 500 free, 2:06.29 and 5:51.42 respectively and was part of the winning 200 and 400 free relays.

Amador/Foothill tennis

In another great Amador/Foothill match, the Dons knocked off the Falcons 6-3.

Winners for Amador were Bryan Park, James Heeter, Gavin Jia, and Vincent Ma in singles. The Dons

took two of the three doubles matches with Roy Kim/Anuraag Aravindan and Vikram Murali/Nigel Purvis getting the wins.

The Falcons got a win in doubles from Anas Joyo/Alex Thompson, while getting singles wins from Juvan Kristna and Michael Liu.

Amador boys' lacrosse

The Dons split their two games last week losing to Northgate, but then rallying with a win over Granada.

In the 10-9 loss to Northgate Owen Heck (1 goal, 4 assists) and Will Coultrip (4 goals) led the offense.

In the 9-7 win over Granada, Will Coultrip (4 goals, 1 assist), Brady Macisaac (2 goals, 2 assists), and Sebastian Diligent (3 goals) led the offense.

Matteo Gervasoni (4 ground balls collected and 5 forced turnovers) and Noah Awad (5 ground balls collected and 1 forced turnover) led the defensive effort.

Grant Thompson won over 50 percent of his faceoffs, and goalie Alec Smith made 10 saves in the winning effort. ■

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.

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

HIGHLIGHTS

Human Services Commission Meeting
Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 7 p.m.
City of Pleasanton Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Provide a Recommendation to the City Council to Adopt the Draft Council Priorities for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and Receive an Overview of the Citywide Strategic Plan Project

Library Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 7 p.m.
City of Pleasanton Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

- Review and Discuss Pleasanton Literacy and ESL Program
- Selected Third Committee Member for the Library Policy Subcommittee
- Schedule of Upcoming Programs, Events and Meetings of Interest

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

Entertainment

BEST OF SF COMEDY

COMPETITION Back at the Bankhead by popular demand, a new group of competition winners will take the stage for only one reason, to make you laugh. 8 p.m., March 31. Tickets \$20-\$45. Visit livermorearts.org.

CITY OF DUBLIN HOSTS FREE

OPERA PERFORMANCE Boheme Out of the Box is a one-hour version of Puccini's opera, sung in Italian and featuring English dialogue. Performances 7:30 p.m., March 31-April 1. 2 p.m., April 2. Registration at sfopera.com/box is encouraged. Emerald Glen Park.

HONK! JR. AT THE FIREHOUSE

This heartwarming celebration of being different is sure to delight audiences of all ages with its sparkling wit, unique charm and memorable score. March 31-April 2. Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org.

BALLET ROOTS DANCE COMPANY

Ballet Roots is Pleasanton's very own premier ballet company whose mission is to provide the local community with professional-quality performances exhibiting both classical and contemporary ballet. 3 p.m. & 6 p.m., April 1. Livermore High School. Tickets \$17. Visit balletroots.org.

KALEIDOSCOPE COLOR AND

SPIRITUAL SOUND Livermore-Amador Symphony Presents Kaleidoscope Color and Spiritual Sound, intoxicating dance infuses the music of Mexican composer Arturo M-rquez. Prelude talk, 7-7:30 pm., Concert, 8 p.m., April 1. Tickets \$27-\$39. Visit livermorearts.org.

CHARO IN CONCERT: A MUSICAL

SENSATION Charo is a multi-talented singer, musician, comedian and stage and screen performer known for her high-energy live concerts and award-winning Flamenco guitar playing. 7:30 p.m., April 3. Tickets \$20-\$105. Visit livermorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS COURTYARD

CONCERTS Kick off the weekend for happy hour in the Madden Courtyard starring The LK Project, a singer/songwriter trio. 5:30 p.m., April 13. Tickets \$20. Visit livermorearts.org.

JOHN OATES AT THE BANKHEAD

Join for an evening of acoustic music and storytelling with John Oates, one half of the best-selling duo of all time, Hall & Oates, as well as an accomplished solo artist. 8 p.m., April 14. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

SONGS OF THE EAGLES

One of These Nights-Songs of The Eagles returns to The Bankhead, brilliantly re-creating the harmonic sounds of the

legendary Eagles. 8 p.m., April 15. Tickets \$38-\$58. Visit livermorearts.org.

PIANIST DANIEL GLOVER

Concert pianist Daniel Glover performs musical selections of Rachmaninoff in celebration of his 150th birthday, as well as waltzes, marches and more by equally well-known composers representing four periods of music. 7:30 p.m., April 22. Tickets \$30 Visit valleyconcertchorale.org. First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St, Livermore.

Exhibits

BAY AREA FIGURATIVE EXHIBIT

This exhibition highlights the significance of the Bay Area Figurative Movement showcasing a number of contemporary artists working in this unique style. Through April 23. Bankhead Theater.

FIREHOUSE LOBBY EXHIBITION

"After the Storm" features nine of artist Angelica Turner's works, including the lush botanical motifs for which she is known. Through April 8. 4444 Railroad Ave.

Family

EASTER BUNNY AT STONERIDGE

MALL The Easter Bunny is hopping into town at Stoneridge Shopping Center and reservations are encouraged for a Bunny Photo Experience. March 10-April 8. Visit bunnyphoto.splashthat.com.

Farmers' Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET

The Pleasanton Farmers' Market is Saturday year round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. W. Angela St.

LIVERMORE SUNDAY FARMERS' MARKET

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

Expos

CAT EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE

FAIRGROUNDS At this Cat Extravaganza & Adoption event meet beautiful cats, local charities, speak to exhibitors, watch the international competition and enjoy a great lineup of speakers. 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., April 1-2. Tickets \$15-\$20. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

GOLDEN GATE ARABIAN SHOW AT

THE FAIRGROUNDS Now in our 66th year, this two day show features the magnificent, diverse and athletic Arabian and half

Arabian horses. This free event is fun for the whole family. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., April 1-2. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

ROBO GAMES AT THE

FAIRGROUNDS RoboGames is the Olympics of Robots where the best minds from around the world compete in over 50 different events. Some robots are autonomous, some are remote controlled, but all are cool. April 6-9. Tickets \$45, Military free. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Outdoor Recreation

CRYPTOZOLOGY AND OTHER

MYTHS Learn how some of the origins of Bigfoot, Loch Ness Monster, Chupacabra and many others came to be. Celebrate April Fool's Day in Sycamore Grove Park. 2 p.m., April 1. 1051 Wetmore Rd. Call 925-373-5700.

CATTAIL POND HIKE

Learn about the turtles and other wildlife in the area on this 3 mile walk up to Cattail Pond. 9 a.m., April 2. 1051 Wetmore Rd. Call 925-373-5700.

SPRING NIGHT HIKE

Take an approximately 1 mile hike in hopes of catching a glimpse of some of the park's nocturnal inhabitants. Wear comfortable shoes and a warm jacket. 7:30 p.m., April 8. Sycamore Grove Park. Call 925-373-5700.

EASTER AT DEL VALLE

Drop in at the Visitor Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Apr. 9. Visit ebparks.org/calendar.

Seniors

CONSUMER FRAUD PREVENTION

Legal Assistance and Health Insurance Counseling Presentation presents "Consumer Fraud: Scams Targeting Seniors and Tips For Protection and Prevention". 1 p.m., April 5. Pleasanton Senior Center. Call 925-931-5365.

AARP FREE TAX PREPARATION

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance free of charge, Mondays & Fridays, Feb 3-April 17, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. For available appointments call the Pleasanton Senior Center at 925-931-5365.

SENIOR SOLE MATES

Walking is one of the easiest and most cost effective forms of exercise for adults. Participants must be able to walk 2.5 miles and keep a moderate pace with the group. 8:45-10 a.m., Wednesdays. Pleasanton Senior Center.

PLEASANTON PEDALERS AT THE

SENIOR CENTER Pleasanton Pedalers Cycling meets at the

PET OF THE WEEK



VHS

Meet Golden Gloria

Golden Gloria glows wherever she goes, fancying fetch, friends and food! She is a playful puppy, preferring people and other pups! Learn more about Gloria and other cats and dogs at valleyhumane.org. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. #ShareTheCare to help pets today!

Senior Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.-Noon. For more information call 925-931-5365.

BOOKS, PUZZLES & MAGAZINES

The Pleasanton Senior Center offers books, puzzles & magazines which can be checked out thanks to the Assistance League of Amador Valley.

LUNCHEAS AT THE PLEASANTON

SENIOR CENTER For (60+) served in the Main Hall, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for more information.

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

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS

Free remote legal services for seniors. To schedule a phone appointment call (510) 839-0393 or visit lashicap.org/programs/hicap.

PLEASANTON RIDES

Serving eligible Pleasanton Seniors with transportation needs, Pleasanton Rides is a door-to-door, shared-ride transportation service for Pleasanton seniors. For reservations and information call 925-398-1045.

Support

VOLUNTEER WITH OPEN HEART

KITCHEN Open Heart Kitchen exists to meet the immediate need of hunger within the Tri-Valley community, while also seeking ways to eliminate systematic inequalities leading to hunger. To learn more visit openheartkitchen.org/volunteer.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT

GROUP Tri-Valley Haven will begin a Monday, in-person support group for survivors of domestic violence. Participants must be 18 and over and pre-register as there will be no drop-ins. 11 a.m.-12 p.m., March 27-May 15. Contact Sharon at 925-667-2607 or email sharon@trivalleyhaven.org.

FREE SHOWER & LAUNDRY

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

LIVERMORE WARMING CENTER

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. Contact info@onenationdreammakers.org.

Talks

LIVERMORE-AMADOR

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Linda Harms Okazaki, a past president of the California Genealogical Society, presents "Organize your Genealogy". Linda will share strategies to start your research, keep track of findings and establish naming conventions for both digital and paper files. 7-8:30 p.m., April 10. Visit l-ags.org.

SIERRA CLUB TRI-VALLEY

The next virtual Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group Meeting is 7 p.m., April 12. Visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/events.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT

RELIGION CHAT "How does your religion adapt itself to reflect changing times?" is the topic of the next Interfaith Interconnect Religion Chat. 5-6 p.m., April 12. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1501 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore. For more information visit Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com or [facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect](https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithInterconnect).

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY

GARDEN CLUB Lita Gates spent 40 years working in local nurseries, achieving certified nursery pro status. She'll present "Pruning Flowering Plants and Bushes" at the next Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club meeting. 7 p.m., April 13. Alisal School 1454 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. For more information at jstarkhome@comcast.net.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

Employment

Education Program Director

Education Program Director (Pleasanton, CA) Establish policies & procedures for our afterschool & summer camp programs to ensure efficiency, effectiveness, & competitiveness of these programs. Bachelor's deg in education admin or bus admin w/ coursework in operations mgmt; 2 yrs' work exp analyzing operational efficiency & effectiveness of academic programs at a non-profit academic institution; College coursework in strategic operations mgmt & organizational leadership; Ability to work independently w/ minimum supvn & lead multiple projects simultaneously. Wage range \$51,459 to \$66,590/yr. Send resume adamqwang@yfacademy.com or LIL, Inc. dba Yang Fan Academy c/o Qiaojun Wang, 4160 Hacienda Dr., Ste. 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

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Public Notices

CHURRITOS CON XOCHITL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 595521

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) ChurrITOS con Xochitl, located at 1855 locusts st Livermore CA 94551, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

ALEJANDRA ARROYO

1855 locust st

Livermore CA 94551

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/10/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 10 2023.

(PLW Mar 24, 31, Apr 7 and 14, 2023)

DVB INSURANCE SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 596190

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) DVB Insurance Services, located at 344 Division St #209, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

DIABLO VALLEY BENEFITS, LLC

344 Division St #209

Pleasanton, CA 94566

California

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11-1-13.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 09 2023.

(PLW Mar 17, 24, 31 and Apr 7, 2023)

SCRIPT MOLECULAR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 596096

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Script Molecular, located at 4198 Rennellwood Way, Pleasanton, CA-94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

DEKA BIOTECH INC

4198 Rennellwood Way

Pleasanton, CA 94566

California

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 07 2023.

(PLW Mar 24, 31, Apr 7 and 14, 2023)

RIDGECREST CONSTRUCTION & REMODEL DESIGN
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 596136

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Ridgecrest Construction & Remodel Design, located at 10617 Altamont Pass Rd. Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

HENRY BATTEATE

10617 Altamont Pass Rd.

Livermore, CA 94551

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/01/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 08 2023.

(PLW Mar 17, 24, 31 and Apr 7, 2023)

SHENZHEN VALLEY VENTURES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 596536

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Shenzhen Valley Ventures, located at 4975 Middleton Pl, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

HAXIS LABS INCORPORATED

4975 Middleton Pl

Pleasanton, CA 94566

Delaware

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/01/2016

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 22 2023.

(PLW Mar 31, Apr 7, 14 and 21, 2023)

EASTBAY MAIL & DELIVERY
EASTBAY DELIVERY
MODERN EXPRESS
MODERN EXPRESS COURIER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 596303

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) Eastbay Mail & Delivery, 2.) Eastbay Delivery, 3.) Modern Express, 4.) Modern Express Courier, located at 750 4th St. Oakland, CA 94607, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

MODERN MAIL SERVICE INC

750 4th St

Oakland, CA 94607

California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/01/2012

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 14 2023.

(PLW Mar 24, 31, Apr 7 and 14, 2023)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

- Fictitious Business Name
- Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name
- Name Change
- Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution
- Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
- Notice of Bulk Sale
- Legal Summons
- Trustee Sale

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Award-winning flamenco guitarist Charo to headline Bankhead Theater

Performance part of Livermore Valley Arts 15th anniversary season

By NICOLE GONZALES

This April visitors of the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore will have the opportunity to catch world-renowned guitarist, Charo, live in concert.

Known for flamenco and classical guitar, the musician is set to headline the venue for one night only. "Charo in Concert: A Musical Sensation" is scheduled at the theater April 3 at 7:30p.m.

"LVA is delighted to welcome internationally-recognized performer Charo to the Bankhead," said Ruth Egherman, director of marketing with Livermore Valley Arts. "She's an iconic performer, one that is a household name," Egherman said. "Charo brings to life any venue, room or theater she is playing in."

In her discography, Charo is known to blend upbeat flamenco, latin guitar and classical stylings. The Spanish-born artist has been recognized around the globe for her impact on Latin music and women empowerment.

With a career that has spanned several decades, Charo has received a number of prestigious accolades including the Female Pop Album of the Year award from the Billboard International Latin Music Conference.

"She is an enormous talent, being a singer, musician, dancer and actress. Charo is known around the world for her energetic and uplifting shows," Egherman said. She added that "Charo in



LIVERMORE VALLEY ARTS

Guitarist, singer and actress Charo is set to perform for one night only at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore this April.

"Charo in Concert: A Musical Sensation" has been one of the most anticipated performances of the year for LVA.

Charo's performance will be part of LVA's 15th anniversary year which has featured various other well-known musicians and performing arts groups so far.

"I hope the people of

Livermore and the Tri-Valley enjoy the chance to see her perform here because it is one you won't want to miss," Egherman said. "Whether you like flamenco and latin music or not, you'll be entertained."

For tickets and more information on the Bankhead Theater venue, visit Livermorearts.org. ■

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS Connie Post, first Poet Laureate of Livermore, presents "Finding your creativity in the Between Places". She'll explain how to find creativity by going beyond descriptions to find hidden meaning in unexpected places. 2 p.m., April 15. Las Positas College. Visit trivalleywriters.org. Register by April 13.

HOPE HOSPICE SEMINAR Webinar: Living With Dementia-Next Steps After a New Diagnosis. Attend this free live webinar with an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation. 10-11:30 a.m., April 13. Visit hopehospice.com.

MENTAL HEALTH LECTURE SERIES Dr. Jami F. Young, Associate Chair of Research in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, will offer a free webinar, "Early

Identification and Prevention of Youth Depression" presented by the Alan Hu Foundation. 5-6 p.m., April 19. Register by April 18. Visit alanhufoundation.org.

HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets virtually via Zoom on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of every month from 12 p.m.-1 p.m. Visit haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org.

Business

PLEASANTON CHAMBER NETWORKING MIXER Networking mixers are a benefit of chamber membership and are free for chamber members to attend. 5-7 p.m., April 12. Visit pleasanton.org.

LVCC VIRTUAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEETING The next Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce virtual Business Alliance Meeting is 8-9:30 a.m., April 5. Visit livermorechamber.org.

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., April 12. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is 6 p.m., April 13. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE PLANNING COMMISSION The Livermore Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., April 4. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

Find local clubs, events, fundraisers, support groups and more at PleasantonWeekly.com/calendar

San Ramon council denies Marketplace appeal

Hotly-debated mixed-use project set to move forward

By JEANITA LYMAN

The San Ramon City Council voted last week to deny an appeal from a neighborhood group that would have seen the Planning Commission's earlier vote reluctantly approving a controversial housing project overturned if approved.

Councilmembers convened at their regular meeting on March 14 to discuss an appeal of the commission's decision to approve the proposed Marketplace mixed-use project on Feb. 16, brought forward by Citizens Against Marketplace Development (CAMPAD), as well as an appeal by the applicant that sought to override one of the commission's conditions of approval for the project.

The unanimous vote to deny the appeal from CAMPAD and to approve the appeal from applicant TRC Retail with some modifications that maintained a portion of a shared parking agreement between residential and retail portions of the proposed development came following extensive discussion and comments from the public, as well as planning commissioners.

"I speak here tonight as an individual, not as a member of the Planning Commission or on behalf of the Planning Commission because the Planning Commission — it's our decision that's being attacked by everybody — the Planning Commission as a whole cannot speak through an individual or otherwise," Planning Commissioner Eric Wallis said.

"The first thing is why this shared parking agreement is important, and that's all I'm going to speak about. This project consists of 40 ... four-bedroom homes with two-car garages, no street parking and no driveway aprons," he continued.

Wallis was critical of the appeal from TRC on the table that evening, arguing that the shared parking agreement commissioners had included as a condition of approval for the

project was required as part of the mixed-use designation the project would be zoned under.

"One of the arguments the applicant and staff made is that it's a constitutional violation to have the shared parking arrangement," Wallis said. "As I pointed out, constitutional violation only occurs when the city requires the applicant to provide money or property in exchange for the condition. That's not true here. There is no constitutional violation, and I'm kind of surprised that the staff repeated that argument in front of you."

He noted that while the shared parking agreement wouldn't be required if TRC was applying for a purely residential project, the mixed-use designation they were seeking meant otherwise.

"The whole point to share(d) parking is set forth in the zoning ordinance I attached in my memo is there are additional requirements for mixed use parking," he continued. "If this was a single family home complex only they could make that argument but they've done this as a mixed use arrangement. They have to meet our standards for that."

He added that the purpose of this requirement was for businesses and residential areas to be able to compliment each other and make the most of retail parking.

"The whole reason to share parking when you have mixed use is the parking and traffic arrangements occur at different times," Wallis said. "Businesses operate during the day, people go to work during the day. You need parking for businesses during the day, you need parking for people at night. They're not at the same time."

Commissioner Rick Marks also spoke to the council at the start of public comments that evening, during which he also emphasized the shared parking agreement required for mixed-use projects and was critical of moves by city staff.



CITY OF SAN RAMON

Rendering of the proposed housing that would be the main feature of a redevelopment project at the Marketplace Shopping Center.

"The staff made the determination that because our typical parking requirements for residential development had been met in the garages of the proposed that they had the ability ... to waive the condition that there be shared parking as required in the project area mixed use plan," Marks said. "There is no such discretion in that part of the ordinance, none."

Marks argued that it was also unreasonable and impractical to eliminate the shared parking agreement.

"City planning is more than just calculating the FAR, what the height limits are, what the setbacks are, it is about what are you creating for the people who are going to live there and in this case you have the opportunity to make life more livable for that third car and there's no good reason to say we're not going to do it," Marks said. "Their business issues with other leases is not the city's responsibility. It was theirs to figure out before they made the application."

During a public comment, Susie Ferris-Inderkum noted that the project had been approved by the commission after extensive debate, and with some reluctance.

"The Planning Commission approval was not unanimous," Ferris-Inderkum said. "In fact it was quite divided. And it's really worth going back and looking at the video because there was a lot of controversy on that, so I want to be very clear that it was not unanimous."

She also noted that the much decried loss of Nob Hill Foods as a tenant in the existing

Marketplace Shopping Center was directly related to the planned housing project.

"You have to remember that TRC had already submitted plans for that massive apartment complex ... So that's one of the reasons Nob Hill was terminated," Ferris-Inderkum said. "They needed to get a favorable long-term lease or it wasn't feasible for them to stay if it was going to be replaced with housing."

Carol O'Keefe, also during a public comment, emphasized the skepticism she and another member of CAMPAD had regarding the project's mixed-use designation.

"We're creating a community for 120 people in a situation that clearly is not mixed-use," O'Keefe said. "Merely having a coffee shop nearby a development of 40 homes is really stretching the term mixed-use."

After lengthy discussions and negotiations with representatives from TRC, the Council took their vote to deny the appeal from CAMPAD and modify the appeal from TRC to allow 12 retail parking spaces to be used for overnight parking by residents, and to adjust the end of the overnight parking time to 5:30 a.m.

As part of a time extension the city agreed to with applicant TRC Retail, the council had committed to review and vote on the proposed project on March 14, following four public hearings at the Planning Commission, with the maximum number of meetings on the project being capped at five between the commission and the council. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (February 21-24)

Total sales reported: 1
Lowest sale reported: \$755,000
Highest sale reported: \$755,000
Average sales reported: \$755,000

Livermore (February 21-24)

Total sales reported: 20
Lowest sale reported: \$550,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,250,000
Average sales reported: \$1,188,075

Dublin (February 21-24)

Total sales reported: 8
Lowest sale reported: \$693,500
Highest sale reported: \$1,420,000
Average sales reported: \$968,812

San Ramon (February 21-24)

Total sales reported: 5
Lowest sale reported: \$546,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,850,000
Average sales reported: \$1,320,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during February 21-24 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon.

Pleasanton

3683 Woodbine Way Murthy Trust to Y. & Q. Li for \$755,000

Livermore

490 Andrews Street Turner Family Trust to M. & N. Gallagher for \$812,000

2148 Chateau Place Volponi Trust to S. & S. Lynch for \$1,484,000

4262 Drake Way Thompson Family Trust to M. & Z. Zhou for \$1,250,000

304 Garden Common Engler Trust to D. & A. Newman for \$650,000

820 Geraldine Street S. & G. Craddock to K. & J. Fong for \$1,050,000

804 Jefferson Avenue Fletcher Trust to J. & C. Pedroncelli for \$915,000

5194 Kathy Way W. & B. Woerner to W. & L. Williams for \$1,125,000

805 Los Alamos Avenue Bommer Family Trust to L. & J. Andrade for \$850,000

3368 Madeira Way R. Lindahl to A. Simon for \$735,000

32 Meritage Common #104 J. Hsu to M. & A. Jansen for \$710,000

1953 Monterey Drive E. & S. Schoennagel to Z. & J. Naisan for \$550,000

4743 Mulqueeney Common G. Kelly to C. & Z. Wiegell for \$632,500

2476 Normandy Circle S. & M. Lynch to Krishnan Family Trust for \$2,020,000

325 Northwood Commons T. Wittsack to J. Stokes for \$800,000

6417 Owl Way J. Anderson to H. & J. Cerri for \$1,325,000

6433 Owl Way C. Celentano to M. & M. Wheat for \$1,250,000

2417 Sevillano Circle Pierce Living Trust to D. & F. Nascimento for \$3,250,000

433 Summertree Drive Hollyvale Rental Holdings LLC to Horn Trust for \$1,500,000

1654 Sunset Drive Horn Trust to S. & P. Desai for \$1,005,000

1790 Verdite Street Wik Living Trust to N. & S. Rohatgi for \$1,848,000

Dublin

7323 Bower Lane #10 A. Khan to S. & V. Bhat for \$880,000

7569 Brigadoon Way #217 H. & D. Martynov to R. & R. Zuilan for \$899,000

3275 Dublin Boulevard #125 D. Milne to M. & J. Glover for \$725,000

3385 Dublin Boulevard #429 T. Chan to Q. Ruffy for \$703,000

5401 Gracen Way P. Sanu to K. & A. Rohatgi for \$1,350,000

3927 Guerneville Way V. & K. Rashev to Y. & Y. Ho for \$1,080,000

7588 Honey Court J. & R. Benge to T. & A. Upadhyay for \$1,420,000

11801 Newbridge Way R. Wong to I. & Z. Dean for \$693,500

San Ramon

218 Copper Ridge Road C. Moore to Gcp LLC for \$546,000

310 Foxboro Court T. & E. Kern to N. & G. Sadasivam for \$1,425,000

3401 Loreto Drive Miller Trust to Y. & N. Nekkanti for \$1,320,000

2970 Millbridge Drive Cloutier Family Trust to Horner Trust for \$1,315,000

3733 Stonehenge Way 1832 B LLC to 3733 Stonehenge LLC for \$1,850,000

Source: California REsource



ARMARIO HOMES

TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY



Award Winning Pleasanton Specialist DeAnna Armario

DeAnna ranks in the TOP 1% of agents nationwide 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: (925) 694-0806.

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1923 NICOSIA COURT - RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON
COMING SOON \$3,299,000
4 BED | 3.5 BATH | 3,447 SQFT



DeAnna Armario presents an exclusive Ruby Hill Country Club property located in the Ascona neighborhood. This luxury home features a grand entrance with soaring ceilings and admirable staircase. The open floor plan leads to a beautiful kitchen with a large island that opens to the family room. An impressive main level primary suite includes a magnificent ensuite and double doors leading to an entertainers backyard. The second level boasts two bedrooms with a Jack and Jill bathroom and an addition bedroom with an ensuite. The private backyard features a shaded built-in BBQ and a separate seating area with a wood-burning oven. This quiet location is walking distance to the renowned Ruby Hill Clubhouse, golf club, as well as the tennis courts & pool.

Schedule private showing: (925) 302-2626 | Info@Armariohomes.com



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REPRESENTED SELLERS



3218 NOVARA WAY, RUBY HILL
REPRESENTED SELLERS & BUYERS



4132 PARMA COURT, RUBY HILL
REPRESENTED SELLERS



885 BRICCO COURT, RUBY HILL
REPRESENTED SELLERS



4471 LINDA WAY, PLEASANTON
REPRESENTED SELLERS



66 EDGEGATE COURT, DANVILLE
REPRESENTING SELLERS



4854 BRAXTON PLACE, PLEASANTON
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OAK HILL, PLEASANTON



7774 OAK CREEK COURT, PLEASANTON

4 BD + DETACHED OFFICE/STUDIO | 2 BA
2,004 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE

This newly remodeled, understated luxury, LA-style single story home features a light and airy open concept floor plan with more upgrades than you can imagine. The interior boasts custom accent walls, a vaulted living room ceiling, 12" wide plank white oak engineered hardwood floors throughout and an impressive show stopping chef's kitchen. An oversized custom island features 2" thick white Vadara quartz slab countertops, SS Thermador gas stove and hood, SS built in Thermador refrigerator, custom herringbone Italian marble backsplash, custom cabinetry with Restoration Hardware knobs/handles, 120+ bottle wine fridge, and SS farm sink. The primary Hampton style en-suite is a work of art with accent wall, walk in closet w/ barn door and an absolutely dreamy ultra-chic bathroom. Each secondary room provides ample space and closet organizers. This energy efficient home includes a whole house Kinetico water filtration system, newer HVAC and EV charging outlet. It sits on a drought tolerant, professionally landscaped, low maintenance lot in an amazing neighborhood with mature trees, green belt, community pool and close to all three levels of school.

LIST PRICE \$1,799,888

SOUTH LIVERMORE



1141 RIESLING CIRCLE, LIVERMORE

3 BD + OFFICE AREA | 2.5 BA | 2,617 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE

Don't miss this remodeled & impeccably maintained solar powered home in a sought-after South Livermore location! Rarely are homes available in this beautifully manicured neighborhood. This spacious east facing property offers an abundance of natural light and privacy. Unwind in the professionally landscaped backyard oasis with newer PebbleTec pool, raised spa & waterfall, outdoor kitchen & pergola. The gourmet kitchen has been tastefully remodeled and offers modern white cabinetry, granite countertops, tile backsplash, SS appliances, gas stove & pantry. The open formal living room and dining area are perfect for entertaining. The stunning wrought iron staircase leads up to a generous office space in the landing, a large master suite with a remodeled spa-like bath, two guest bedrooms and an additional remodeled full bath. Hardwood floors, newer light fixtures, newer floor coverings, 3-car garage, owned solar, newer interior paint and so much more!! A short walk from the vibrant downtown area and many of the well-known wineries. This home has it all and is sure to amaze!

SOLD PRICE \$1,509,000

DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON



1027 ROSE AVENUE, PLEASANTON / PARCEL

24,678 SQ. FT. LOT

Great opportunity to easily create two premium buildable lots on Downtown Area Parcel! Previously fully approved minor two lot subdivision in 2016 has expired but should make the reapplication path less cumbersome. Parcel division was approved for two lots facing Creek Trail Drive (1308 & 1320 Creek Trail Drive). Walk to downtown from these premium 12,000 plus lots located adjacent to \$2,000,000- \$3,000,000 homes. The originating property address is 1027 Rose Lane and the actual 24,678 square foot parcel number is APN# 94-128-45.

*Subdivision not guaranteed and new owner will need to re-apply with Pleasanton Planning.

SOLD PRICE \$1,500,000

MULTIPLE OFFERS RECEIVED

VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE



OPEN HOUSE
Listed at \$3,449,000

42 Golf Road, Castlewood
4 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 4,233 Square Feet



Golf Course Living, Amazing Views!

Open House:
Friday 3/31 from 10am-1pm
Saturday 4/1 & Sunday 4/2 from 1-4pm



OPEN HOUSE
Listed at \$4,795,000

1904 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill
5 Bedrooms | 5,385 Square Feet | .55 Acre Lot



Breathtaking Estate, Amazing Views!

Open House:
Sunday 4/2 from 1-4pm



FOR SALE
Listed at \$4,449,999

Luxury Spacious Living, Amazing Views!
12400 Morgan Territory Road, Livermore
5 Bedrooms | 5.5 Bathrooms | 5,992 Square Feet



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\$100k Over List Price

5847 San Juan Way, Pleasanton
6 Offers In Hand With 2 All Cash Offers!



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