

# Pleasanton Weekly

Real Estate  
Spring Preview

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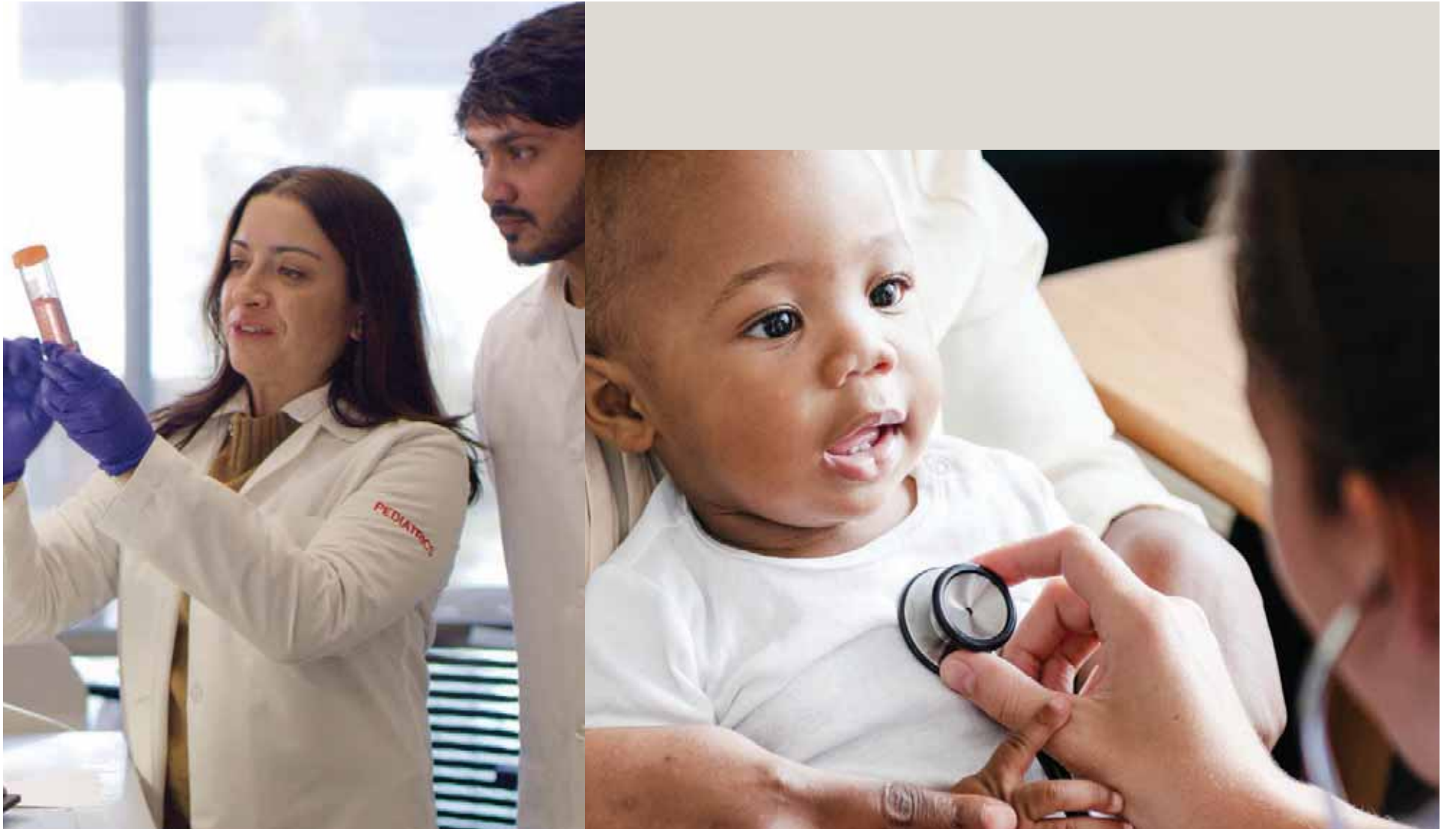
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# WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

## Busy May in Pleasanton

There is plenty going on in Pleasanton during the month ahead, both for those who want to get out and enjoy the spring weather and for those who want to duck indoors if these recent 90-degree-plus days are here to stay already.

The Firehouse Arts Center, the creative and artistic heartbeat of downtown Pleasanton, is welcoming the three-weekend run of “The Song of the Nightingale” starting this Saturday.

Billed as a “fairytale musical”, the play is an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen’s “The Nightingale” written and composed by Bay Area playwright Min Kahng and set in ancient China. Read more about the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production inside in this week’s cover story by our reporter Nicole Gonzales.

“The Song of the Nightingale” will be the primary presence in the main Firehouse theater for the next three weeks, with one exception being the latest installment of the Museum on Main’s Ed Kinney Speaker Series. On May 9, actor J.T. Turner will embody a legendary American poet for “An Afternoon or Evening with Robert Frost” (a virtual version will follow on May 16).

Of course, all the while the Harrington Gallery inside the venue is displaying some of the most amazing artworks created in and around the Bay Area during the past year as part of the “Fresh Works XI” exhibition, which is open through June 10.

After the musical closes, the Firehouse stage will feature a handful of shows for the second half of the month, including “Puppets of Impulse” from May 18-20 brought to us by local teen improv troupe Creatures of Impulse, the High School Music Collaborative’s “Grad Night” presentation on May 26 and 1990s rock tribute band Citizen Flannel on May 27.

Also this month, the Amador Theater will host the Pleasanton Youth Theatre Company’s production of “Annie KIDS” on May 12-13, an adaptation of the classic musical “Annie” for an all-children cast.

Pleasanton’s other major entertainment facility, the Alameda County Fairgrounds, has a full slate of special events over the next month as well.

One big draw there will be the Spring Manufacturers’ RV Show &

Sale, set for May 6-14, which promises to bring significant crowds and exhibitors like in past years. On that first Saturday of May, the fairgrounds will also see action at Pleasanton Off-Track Betting with livestreaming of the Kentucky Derby; the Preakness Stakes will follow on May 20.

For fans of everything comic book related, the fairgrounds is hosting Powerhouse Comic Con on May 20, with a variety of artists, comics, toys, collectibles, games and more.

The next week will bring the West Coast Buildings & Facilities Management Trade Show & Conference from May 23-24, and then the 626 Night Market food and entertainment fest from May 26-28.

Oh, and don’t forget about the PPIE Run for Education at the fairgrounds this Sunday and the National Day of Prayer presentation on Thursday.

Next weekend will mark a major showcase for Main Street, as the Pleasanton Downtown Association celebrates the return of its First Weekends on Main. The street will be closed to vehicular traffic for May 5-7 to allow pedestrians and cyclists to take over and better enjoy all that the historical downtown has to offer.

A highlight for that weekend will be next Saturday (May 6), with the PDA’s annual Wine & Art Stroll from 5-8 p.m.

While you’re downtown, consider checking out the amazing visual display at the Museum on Main in the traveling exhibit “She Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar” — which highlights the work of the late photographer who documented Native American life and culture in California. It’s open through May 27.

The museum in the center of downtown is also holding its first Celebrate Community event of 2023 next month, a pop-up program led by a Sunol Visitor Center naturalist entitled “Chinese Laborers and The Transcontinental Railroad” from 1-3 p.m. May 13.

And that’s just a snapshot of the special events going on in Pleasanton during the next month — let alone those on the docket at the awesome venues across the Tri-Valley. I’m sure I missed something, so please check out our full calendar online at [pleasantonweekly.com/calendar](http://pleasantonweekly.com/calendar). ■

### About the Cover

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre’s production of “The Song of the Nightingale” debuts at the Firehouse Arts Center this Saturday (April 29) to kick off a three-weekend run. Shown are cast members Simon Santos as Xiao Hai and Ann Warque as Mei Lin. Photo by Jepoy Ramos/TVRT. Cover design by Doug Young.

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ANOTHER SOLD HOME!



**379 COSE LANE, TRACY**  
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*Sold For \$726,000*

SOLD IN A FLASH!



**4903 MIDDLETON PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
4 Bedrooms | 3 Baths | 2,300 Sq Ft | 0.36 Acres Lot  
*Sold for \$1,950,000*

SOLD IN A FLASH!



**4451 FAIRLANDS DRIVE, PLEASANTON**  
2 Bedrooms | 1.5 Baths | 1,120 Sq Ft | 747 Sq Ft Lot  
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# SUMMER CAMP CONNECTION

## Fashion Design & Sewing Camp @ KIDZ KRAFTZ!

7690 Quail Creek Cir. | Dublin | (925) 271-0015  
KidzKraftz.com

Focus on sewing stylish, wearable clothing, accessories, craft and jewelry projects, while introducing children to fashion design concepts, sewing techniques, basic pattern manipulation and fashion illustration. Sewing machines and notions provided. FREE fabric for first day of the camp. Early Bird Registration Special, as well as many discount options available.

## Las Positas College Summer Camps

LasPositasCollege.edu/SummerCamps

### Biotech Bootcamps

- Intro to Biotechnology: June 19-22, 2023 | 10am to 3pm Building 1800
  - Intermediate Biotechnology: June 26-29, 2023 10am to 3pm | Building 1800
  - \$100 per student per session | Age Group: 16-18 Years
- Biotechnology is used to diagnose diseases, make vaccines, solve forensic cases, and improve the food we eat. In this week-long camp you will get a chance to utilize some basic molecular biology tools used in biotech to observe and analyze cells, viruses, proteins, and DNA. Students are encouraged to enroll in both courses.

### Digital Media

- Character Design Camp: June 12-15, 2023 | 9am to 2pm Building 700, Room 714
  - \$100 per student per session | Age Group: 14-18 Years
- Have you ever wanted to create your own character and bring it to life? Designing a captivating character is vital for graphic novels, movies, video games and many other industries. In this summer camp, we will draw and paint your own character in Photoshop, taking style, costuming and props into consideration, as well as expressions and gestures.

### Digital Media

- Creature Design Camp: High School: June 26-29, 2023 | 9:00am to 2:00pm Building 700, Room 714 Middle School: July 10-13, 2023 | 9:00am to 2:00pm Building 700, Room 714
- \$100 per student per session
- Age Group: Middle School 11-14 Years, and High School 14-18 Years

Learn the fundamentals of creature design! Whether your creature is a faithful companion, adorable pet, or evil boss, creatures are vital to the creation of any fictional universe. Many illustrators focus on creature design, creating works for movies, games, and animation. In this camp, we will use Adobe Photoshop to sketch and paint our own creature, taking into consideration their anatomy, environment, and behavior.

### Interior Design

- June 26-29, 2023 | 10:00am to 12:30pm | Via Zoom
  - \$100 per student per session | Age Group: 14-18 Years and Up
- Introduction to Interior Design with use of design tools and products. Students will be hands-on to create digital boards and presentations of a desired space. Students will hand draft and computer draft a room working with drafting tools given and computer programs. Design kits will be available for pick up on campus the week before.

### Press Pass 2023 - Summer Sports Institute

- July 17-20, 2023 | 10:00am to 3:00pm | Room 2416
  - \$100 per student per session | Age Group: 14-18 Years
- Get a taste of one of media's most-coveted professions — sports journalism. This week-long course will give students an opportunity to try their hand at the craft, learn from professionals in the field and get modern insight on the latest practices in the industry. Some of the skills developed: writing, interviewing, storytelling, game analysis and, yes, debate. A career in sports media just might begin here.

### Summer Jazz Camps

- Middle School: June 19-22, 2023 | 10:00am to 3:00pm Building 4000 | Age Group: 11-14 Years
- High School: June 26-29, 2023 | 10:00am to 4:00pm Building 4000 | Age Group: 14-18 Years
- \$100 per student per session

Each summer, the LPC Music Department welcomes Middle and High School students of all ability levels to our campus for 4 intensive days where we work on: Improvisation, Music Theory, Arranging, Performance, Rehearsal, and much more. Campers work directly with LPC Music Faculty and present a public performance on Thursday, June 29 on the Mertes Main Stage headlined by a guest combo made up of faculty from the California Jazz Conservatory.

## Stratford School

stratfordschools.com/summer

### Summer@Stratford...It's not just a Camp...it's an Experience!

We've designed the perfect camp for your child, complete with all the fun, enriching activities they love, and the important safety measures and flexible hours you expect. And with many options to choose from, campers will have endless, AWESOME experiences to keep them engaged and excited all summer long.

### Academic Camps

Academic camps are a wonderful way to enhance your child's love of learning while focusing on a specific subject. From math and robotics to literature and creative writing, we have something for every student. Campers work independently and in small groups to apply real-life experiences to lessons learned in the classroom.

### Specialty Camps

Our specialty camps are packed with hands-on activities that offer experiences for campers to discover new skills and talents. Whatever your child's interests are, we have fun and unique activities for them to try!

### Day Camps

Each week, students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 jump into action as they explore science and nature, become involved in creative and performing arts, and participate in sports and games. Our camp features a unique selection of indoor and outdoor activities and field trips that take advantage of resources in the local area.

### Sports Camps

Our rigorous sports camp promotes skill building, exposes children to new activities, and helps build healthy exercise habits. We bring sports specialists from around the area to help each camper improve, practice, and play each sport.

Campers can enjoy sports and games, exciting STEM projects, arts, crafts, music, dance, drama and more. Just wait until you see what they're capable of! Find out more at stratfordschools.com/summer.

## Write Now!

### Summer Writing Camps

Pleasanton/Palo Alto  
Hacienda: (925) 485-5750 | Emerson: (650) 424-1267  
www.headsup.org | writenow@headsup.org

### Good writing is key to a classical education

The Hacienda campus of Emerson Montessori School is a different kind of school. It shapes strong, competent, self-confident individuals, not students who would rather "follow the crowd." Emerson Montessori takes an innovative approach to classical education. Students progress at their own pace and learners are never pushed beyond their capabilities or held back to wait for others. Larger, flexible classrooms provide students with their own cubicles and computers, as well as small-group and large-group work spaces. The curriculum — built on a Montessori foundation — is designed to develop a complete human being. It includes art, music, Chinese, Spanish, economics and business, physical education, school tasks, and personal development. During the summer, the school is an ideal camp environment to improve student writing, an activity requiring both specific skills and the motivation to improve them. The Write Now! program fosters pride in student work by emphasizing what is valuable about it and how each draft represents an improvement over the previous one. For more information about the Write Now! program and Emerson Montessori School, call 925-485-5750.

# Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

## If you were a customer shopping in a store and saw another customer shoplifting, what would you do?



### Dana Ortiz

Wine server

I would go find the store manager or another store employee, to let them know. I would not approach the shoplifter myself because I wouldn't feel it was my place to do that.



### Bryant Yao

Software engineer

I would find the store manager in order to let him or her know, because every store has its own procedures for dealing with theft, and I would want them to handle the situation in accordance with their own procedures.



### Frank Patlan

Service technician

Well, I used to work as a cashier and was always instructed by my employer to not do anything because it could be dangerous to engage with a shoplifter. So as much as I hate the idea of people stealing, I would not take the risk of intervening. Someone who comes into a store with a bad intention might have a similar bad intention toward me if I tried to stop them from doing it.



### Ty Knox, Security

Well, personally, I'd be really upset if I saw someone stealing because my profession involves trying to prevent that, so it's very ingrained in me. But if I were not on the job, I would not approach the thief. I'd just find management and tell them about it. If I pay for what I need, and of course I do, others should too. And if they can't, there are resources available to them. There is no excuse for stealing.



### Mariah Patlan

Warehouse associate

I would alert the store manager or another store employee in order to give them the heads-up, so that they could handle the situation however they saw fit.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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## DIGEST

### Day of Prayer

Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert has organized the third annual county National Day of Prayer for next Thursday morning (May 4) at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

An interfaith event with 15 local leaders of different faith congregations scheduled to participate, the Day of Prayer program will begin at 10 a.m. after an hour-long reception with light refreshments and will feature a lineup of speakers, musical performances and moments of reflection.

"The National Day of Prayer has a rich history dating back to the founding of our nation. During times of national strife, our country's leaders have sought this day to bring the country together in prayer and reflection," Haubert said. "It is a day that transcends religious and political affiliations, reminding us of our shared values and the need to come together in unity."

To RSVP or learn more, email [Lawson.Bell@acgov.org](mailto:Lawson.Bell@acgov.org) or call 510-272-6674.

### LARPD fundraiser

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Foundation is hosting its second annual Wine Down in the Grove fundraiser next month at the Ravenswood Historic Site.

Benefitting the nonprofit that supports the public park district, the event will feature wine and beer tastings with food pairings from local establishments, live music by Tim Gomes, tours of the historic site, interactions with LARPD rangers, and live and silent auctions emceed by former city manager Marc Roberts.

Funds will go to "financial assistance to those in need, allowing them to participate in LARPD programs such as camps, classes, swim lessons, and senior activities," organizers said. The foundation is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

The event is set for 4-7 p.m. May 13. For tickets and more information, go to [www.larpd.org/foundation](http://www.larpd.org/foundation).

### Youth Art Show

The Pleasanton Art League is holding its 2023 Youth Art Show and Artist Reception this weekend at the Stoneridge Shopping Center, next to the Apple Store inside the mall.

"Enjoy beautiful creations by middle and high school students in this year's PAL's Pals show," organizers said. "Come and meet these budding artists as they demonstrate their art styles and engage visitors at the mall."

The exhibit will be on display Saturday and Sunday (April 29-30) during mall hours, with the artist reception and awards ceremony set for 4-5 p.m. Sunday. Learn more at [www.pal-art.com/exhibits-events](http://www.pal-art.com/exhibits-events). ■

## Charges filed in Home Depot employee's death; court documents detail circumstances

Hundreds donate to fund for Blake Mohs' memorial, future prevention efforts

By JEREMY WALSH AND  
CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Alameda County District Attorney's Office issued a six-count criminal complaint against the two suspects arrested in the fatal shooting of a Home Depot employee in Pleasanton last week, including charging the lead defendant with first-degree murder.

Court documents released on April 20 also provide new details about the circumstances of the deadly encounter and ensuing police pursuit two days earlier,

including a police recount of security footage from the scene where loss prevention worker Blake Mohs intervened in a theft in progress before being shot, a reported claim from Benicia Knapps that her gun fired accidentally and the possibility that the alleged getaway driver didn't fully know what happened at the store.

Knapps, 32, of Oakland faces felony counts of first-degree murder for Mohs' death, possession of a firearm by a felon and child abuse for allegedly holding her 21-month-old daughter in the

fleeing SUV.

Co-defendant David Guillory, 31, was charged with four felonies: child abuse, accessory after the fact (knowledge of crime) to robbery, evading police with willful disregard for safety and evading police while driving against traffic.

Prosecutors also allege both defendants have prior serious convictions on their record. It is unclear whether Knapps or Guillory are yet represented by attorneys in the new case; they have court appearances scheduled for today.

The killing of Mohs, a 26-year-old

Tri-Valley native and recognizable Home Depot associate who was set to be married this summer, during a shoplifting incident that escalated into gunfire in the middle of the afternoon on April 18 has sent shockwaves through the Pleasanton community.

"I'm able to hug my family, but I'm saddened by the news of Mr. Blake Mohs — the loss his family, and what was supposed to be his future extended family must be feeling ... My condolences, which

See **HOME DEPOT** on Page 10



NICOLE GONZALES

An onsite engineer walks up to a wind turbine to ensure its safety before giving a rare guided tour of the facility at the Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center in Livermore.

## Helping power the Tri-Valley

Insider's look at Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center

By NICOLE GONZALES

High up in the Altamont Pass located at the end of a narrow dirt road, miles from nearby cities, rests a unique clean energy plant that is quietly and efficiently providing power for the Tri-Valley and greater region.

Known as the Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center, the facility is the only one of its kind in the area. East Bay Community Energy, a non-for-profit public agency that operates the regional community choice energy service, acquired the site in unincorporated Livermore in 2021

and began installing updated infrastructure and programs to make it run more efficiently.

Since then, the site continues to help serve up to 40,000 homes in the region.

"This is one of EBCE's local renewable energy projects we have in the area," EBCE marketing director Dan Lieberman said during a media tour last Friday in honor of Earth Day. "We have a portfolio of projects that we've started developing to serve the customers throughout Alameda County and Tracy that we provide with electricity."

EBCE runs and operates

almost a dozen other energy farms, either via solar or wind, however none in the East Bay region are as large or extensive as the 57.5-megawatt facility on Dyer Road that bears the name of former county supervisor Scott Haggerty, who was an instrumental advocate in the founding of the agency.

"This particular facility, the Scott Haggerty Wind Center in Livermore, is our most local utility scale project. It was the first project that was built specifically to serve customers in its own

See **WIND FARM** on Page 9

## Top court rejects petition to review

SLD loses another bid to overturn city's Eden Housing approvals

By CIERRA BAILEY

Save Livermore Downtown faces yet another court rejection in its quest to overturn the City Council's approval of a 130-unit affordable housing development.

The California Supreme Court case online docket was updated on April 20 to reflect its denial of the community group's petition asking the court to review the appellate court's published decision that affirmed the trial court's judgment in favor of developer Eden Housing, Inc. and the city of Livermore.

"We are grateful to the California Supreme Court for supporting affordable housing and reinforcing the importance of the City of Livermore's vision to provide diverse housing opportunities to its community," said Linda Mandolini, president and CEO of Eden Housing.

She continued, "This is the third ruling against Save Livermore Downtown and it's our sincere hope that we can now focus on moving forward with developing much needed affordable housing rather than wasting precious time and resources on meritless lawsuits. We are thankful to the City of Livermore's steadfast support of

See **EDEN** on Page 10

# Putting Narcan onto Tri-Valley school campuses

Districts increase availability of potentially life-saving treatment amid rising overdose risks to youth

By JEANITA LYMAN

Discussions and policy updates aimed at curbing the growing risk of opioid deaths among young people have been focal points at all four Tri-Valley public school districts in recent months, with support for the increased availability of the overdose treatment Narcan being codified in several board policies.

Trustees at the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and Dublin Unified School District each voted last fall to approve policies requiring the medicine naloxone — typically known by the brand name Narcan — to be available on their campuses, joining the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District among the public districts nationwide to keep the medication on hand in an effort to curb a rise in opioid overdose deaths among youth.

While the Pleasanton Unified School District has yet to implement a board policy for supplying and training district staff on the use of Narcan, that likely won't be the case for long, according to communications director Patrick Gannon.

"We are planning to bring forward a policy at an upcoming board meeting that would make Narcan available on school campuses along with staff training," Gannon said.

Although Gannon said it was unclear when exactly a board policy might be approved at PUSD, it was a top priority for the board and district officials in the coming months.

"It will definitely be this school year," Gannon said. "It will go before our board policy subcommittee first — these meeting agendas are posted publicly, so you may see it soon — and timing may depend on any feedback and revisions from there. I know fentanyl is a concern, but I'm not aware of any advocacy; it's something we feel is important to address, both proactively through education and support as well as reactively through the availability of Narcan."

However, PUSD campuses do have the treatment on hand as it stands, with school resource officers staffed by the Pleasanton Police Department carrying the overdose medication as part of the standard equipment and practice of the police department.

"Since the SROs are department employees, they get the same training and follow the same policy," PPD Sgt. Marty Billdt said. "Fortunately, there hasn't been a time where Narcan has been used at the schools by a Pleasanton police officer."

SRVUSD and DUSD trustees began discussions and approval of the medication at their campuses last October, in the wake of recently released data from the California Department of Public Health showing that 224 young people between ages 15 and 19 years old died in California during 2021 from opioid overdoses.

LVJUSD was the first district to approve carrying the treatment and training staff on its use in district high schools in November 2019, with the CDPH data from last October spurring them to institute the same measures for more of the district's campuses.

"We have Narcan available on all of our middle and high school campuses, including our TK-8 schools," said Michelle Dawson, community engagement coordinator at LVJUSD.

"Prior to this school year, Narcan was available on our high school campuses only, however, given the concerning statistics of fentanyl overdoses in younger students, we felt it was important to have Narcan available at all of our middle schools as well," she continued. "School nurses and administrators are trained to administer."

SROs at the district are also equipped with and trained on the use of Narcan, Dawson noted.

The same CDPH data that spurred LVJUSD to expand their Narcan policy beyond high school campuses, and the ensuing media conversations and concerns from parents and caregivers, also spurred DUSD and SRVUSD to rapidly discuss, approve and implement policies on the medicine last fall.

"We have been very proactive about this important life-saving medication being available at all schools," SRVUSD communications director Ilana Israel Samuels said.

"We had a tremendous response from staff to be trained, with about 230 staff members filling out the initial interest form — and it's an incredible variety of staff who

volunteered to be trained, including office staff, teachers, campus supervisors, counselors, paraeducators, instructional assistants, custodians, site and district administrators, and more," she continued.

While school board meetings have been a growing site of controversial discussions and debates across the country, including at SRVUSD, Samuels said that the Narcan policy was one that had not been met with any substantial opposition before, during, or after the board discussion, approval and implementation process.

"We have really had no pushback at all," Samuels said. "I do recall there was one community member who talked during public comment at the board meeting about wanting to be able to give permission for such a life-saving measure to be used on her student, but that's all. And there was never any follow up on that concern, I believe because the staff member presenting, or it may have been (Superintendent) Malloy, explained that there is no health risk at all to giving someone Narcan, even if they are not actually overdosing. No one else ever said anything beyond providing support and applauding us for being proactive."

Jacqui Berlinn, a Livermore resident and co-founder of Mothers Against Drug Addiction and Deaths, said that while there were some misconceptions circulating about Narcan and its availability on K-12 campuses, its safety and effectiveness for the treatment of opioid overdose amid the growing rates of opioid addiction and death among young people has made it both a necessary and noncontroversial measure at schools.

"One of the myths is that it's going to make kids think it's normal and OK to use," Berlin said. "I just don't think that's the truth at all. It's just preventing someone from dying, and if anything it's a warning to the kids to know that the Narcan is there — that death is a very real possibility."

Berlinn also said the measure should serve as a wake-up call to parents, who she said are often all too under-informed about the risk of overdose deaths brought on by

the increasing stream of illegal fentanyl production and distribution, with the potent, unregulated and potentially deadly drug finding its way into other substances more and more commonly.

"Kids are curious, and some kids see it as a rite of passage to try (drugs)," Berlinn said. "Unfortunately, our drug supply has been poisoned with fentanyl and it could be anything from marijuana and pills to cocaine to heroin — any of these things can be tainted with fentanyl even if someone's trying to avoid that and not take it."

Although the growing risk of overdoses and deaths among young people experimenting with drugs is worthy of the increase in attention and concern about fentanyl, according to Berlinn, she noted that there has been cause for concern, discussion and mitigation measures for much longer.

"It amazes me still that people aren't aware how prevalent this is," Berlinn said. "My son Corey, he tells me he sees younger and younger-aged kids coming into San Francisco on BART, buying drugs and heading back to the suburbs with them."

Berlinn's adult son, Corey Sylvester, is currently in the early stages of a detox and rehabilitation program to treat his fentanyl addiction, which has resulted in him living on the streets of San Francisco as Berlinn has sought to keep watch and offer support for his recovery from across the bay in Livermore.

"The kids that come right off the street, they just want to grab something, and they're not educated on it; they don't know what they're getting," Berlinn said. "They can ask for something that doesn't have fentanyl in it and it doesn't matter because a lot of the dealers don't even speak English. And they're going to sell what they have the most of, regardless."

In addition to witnessing and being concerned about the growing trend, Berlinn said that Sylvester had even found himself intervening recently when he watched a young suburban teenager purchase drugs he knew were tainted with fentanyl.

"My son approached him and told him that 'you need to get rid of that; that's not what you think it is,' and if my son hadn't seen him and

he'd taken it back and partied with friends, it could have been deadly," Berlinn said.

While the risk from opioid overdose death has grown in recent years, Berlinn emphasized that it is nothing new, with Sylvester having had his first experiences with drugs as a high school student growing up in the Tri-Valley before landing on the city streets with a debilitating addiction approximately a decade ago.

In addition to the potentially life-saving effects of having Narcan available on campuses, Berlinn said that she hoped the measure would spur increased scrutiny and discussions surrounding the issue for parents.

"When they hear that Narcan is being put into the schools, they'll wake up and say why? And they can get educated on it if they don't know," Berlinn said.

In addition to drawing concern from parents, caregivers and school officials, the rising trend of opioid addiction and overdose deaths among young people has meant discussion and advocacy among students.

"The topic was brought to a Student Senate meeting in fall, where students expressed they believed Narcan is needed to protect students," Samuels said. "They also believed strongly that students need to be educated."

Advocacy from young people was also on display at DUSD in recent months, according to district spokesperson Chip Dehnert.

"On Thursday, March 30th, the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse partnered with Dublin and Valley high schools to host a community education event spotlighting Tri-Valley students who are members of NCAPDA's Youth Ambassador team," Dehnert said. "DUSD teens presented critical, life-saving information about prescription drug and fentanyl safety."

With PUSD trustees expected to approve and implement the use of Narcan by school nurses and other staff members by the end of the current school year, public K-12 districts throughout the Tri-Valley are set to be stocked with Narcan and behind educational and outreach efforts to inform school communities about the use of the treatment and the risk of overdose deaths. ■

## Zone 7 declares end to drought emergency

Conservation mandates lifted for first time since 2021

By JEANITA LYMAN

After more than a year of mandated water conservation requirements from the region's primary water supplier, Tri-Valley communities are now being encouraged to voluntarily save water, rather than being required to

amid record drought conditions.

The Zone 7 Water Agency Board of Directors voted last week to end the drought state of emergency that first went into effect in late 2021 and included conservation requirements to reduce water use by 15%.

"It is my pleasure to recommend

that the board adopt a resolution declaring an end to the drought emergency, the water shortage contingency plan stage 2, and 50% water conservation," Sal Segura, associate civil engineer for Zone 7, said at the April 19 meeting. "Many of the districts statewide have already done

this, and it makes perfect sense for Zone 7 to follow suit."

The resolution was approved unanimously by all seven directors on the board that oversees Zone 7, which is the water wholesaler for the cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, the Dublin San Ramon Services District

and Cal Water's Livermore Division.

The move comes following the lifting of water conservation requirements at the state level by Gov. Gavin Newsom on March 24, and as the water allocation to Zone 7 from the State Water Project (SWP) was increased to 75% starting in March — the highest level since 2019 — with the potential for further allocation increases throughout the year.

See **ZONE 7** on Page 7

# City Council discusses 'tight' preliminary budget in workshop

Capital projects, work plan priorities, reserve policy changes among key topics

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council reviewed several aspects of what Mayor Karla Brown called the "tightest budget I've had" during a special workshop meeting held last week.

The workshop, according to city staff, was part of an early stage budget process review where Pleasanton finance director Susan Hsieh provided a high-level overview of the general fund operating budget.

She, along with other city staff, also presented recommendations on amending the city's reserve policy, updates on the city's capital improvement program projects and a short list of work plan priorities that the city will aim to plan for in the coming years such as water and infrastructure projects.

"This is a budget adjustment to the way we've done business in the past," Brown said during the April 18 session. "I've been doing this job for over 10 years and this is a significant adjustment to the way the city of Pleasanton is budgeting money. We're now looking more at full asset management. If we own something, how are we going to maintain it? And if it needs to be repaired and replaced, let's really talk about what that cost is. So it means budget tightening."

In Pleasanton, the four-year capital improvement program 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.

City staff presented the preliminary budget report in order to expand its engagement efforts for more community and council input before staff present the full budget next month on May 16 and before the council votes on adopting it in June.

Among that community input and council input that staff have been gathering through community events and council meetings, staff pointed out that this year's budget process had several key changes that they had to bring to the council's attention.

Those changes include the elimination of American Rescue Plan Act funds, which helped stabilize the previous two-year budget and an increase in accrued liability for

pensions due to the investment markets declining last year.

"Staff outlined it in the report, the reduction in market investments has caused our CalPERS and Other Post-Employment Benefit costs to increase and we're realizing that we are having a challenge with a state of good repair throughout the city," Vice Mayor Jack Balch said. "So when I look at this budget as presented, in a surplus position of \$1,829, which is basically less than one month's rent for a studio apartment in our community, I'm concerned."

City attorney Daniel Sodergren explained that this reduction in market investments is an industry-wide problem because excess insurance, which provides additional financial limits above those covered by an underlying insurance policy, is difficult to get in California right now due to the recent wildfires and flooding.

As for the funds that will be available for projects, while staff reassured the council that there currently are no changes to previously backed capital improvement projects that the council has prioritized such as the proposed skate park at Ken Mercer Sports Park, there will be some projects in the CIP that were recommended for deferral.

These projects included the Santa Rita Road at Valley Avenue intersection improvement project, the Santa Rita fiber interconnect project and Nevada Street improvements project.

Hsieh said that while the last project has had some public outreach work completed, the funds are not going to be available due to lower than anticipated traffic impact fee revenues.

But Balch said he wanted to look further into what other discretionary spending can be temporarily deferred across all areas in the city's budget in light of the recent issues with the city finding PFAS, otherwise known as forever chemicals, in the city's operated groundwater wells.

"I think we should, as a council, try to have the budget reflect the values," Balch said. "I know we all value water and so I think we need to be looking at — in light of the other agenda items — supply, treatment and delivery of water as our primary purpose with the budget reflecting that."

He said that as the city put a pause on potentially having to build a well rehab and treatment facility, which the council voted to halt the project in October due to a \$46 million cost projection, he said the city needs to do more to have the fiscal strength to be able to address the city's water problem.

"During the pause we did in October, I mentioned that when we ultimately come up with a water plan of how to address PFAS in our water, we need to have the financing plan ready to go as well so that we have sufficient financing to do it," Balch said.

His comments stemmed from Hsieh mentioning that the water enterprise fund reserve is projected to fall below the minimum reserve level, meaning water rate adjustments will be necessary to maintain high levels of services and continue to invest to maintain infrastructure.

"There's a long period of time where we really didn't spend a lot of time looking at our water enterprise fund," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said.

"We're recommending up to three years to replenish the reserves and what we said for the enterprise fund is that once we recognize there's an issue where we fall below the reserve level, we have to do a rate study within 12 months," Beaudin added. "So that's how we keep in check going forward, but we have a lot of work to do just to get to the starting line in this conversation."

Brown said that she agreed with Balch in that as the city looks at the budget in the next coming months, the council will need to really weigh out what projects will be necessary to maintain the city's values and which ones can wait.

"Our enterprise funds need to pay for their project. Enterprise for water doesn't pay for roads and roads don't pay for water," Brown said. "We need to look at that enterprise fund for water and see how it can fund any of the demands and needs that we're going to need going forward?"

"These are tough times for water," Brown added. "We know we have PFAS in our water and that affects our water volume, that affects our ability to deliver the amount of water

that we want to to our residents."

As for the city's 2023-24 work plan, water will be one of the 11 projects that staff will be looking at as part of the water and sewer master plan updates, updates to the utility rates and ongoing water supply assessments such as the water study that the city is currently working on completing.

Other work plan projects for the next year will include: the diversity equity and inclusion action plan; developing a plan to reduce homelessness in Pleasanton; updating affordable housing fees; creating an American with Disabilities Act transition plan; and an update and implementation of the Eastern Alameda County 2011 Human Services Needs Assessment.

One of the last major changes that Hsieh went over was a proposed change to the city's reserve policy.

Pleasanton's reserve policy currently combines unrestricted reserves and restricted pension reserves together for the reserve calculation, but now Hsieh said staff will be looking to follow the Government Finance Officers Association's recommendation to maintain at least two months or 16.7% of unrestricted reserves in the general fund.

She said the goal is to separate the other restricted reserves from

the unrestricted reserves but that the intent is not to reduce overall reserve level.

The change that staff will be proposing during future budget discussion will be to change the general fund reserve target from 25% to 20% and change the 20% to 30% reserve range to 16.7% to 25.0%.

Some other notable pieces of information during the presentation included capital investments over the next four years being projected at about \$83 million with the most significant one being transportation and streets at about \$44 million.

Other investments include: \$8 million for facilities, \$7 million for sewer, \$5 million for parks and over \$4 million for water projects.

Staff also anticipates eight new projects in the CIP in this upcoming budget cycle including the repair and replacement of pavement of trails along the arroyos at various locations. The other seven projects include an asset management plan to plan and fund maintenance needs of existing infrastructure such as facilities, installation of electric vehicle charging stations, replacement of irrigation equipment, electrical improvement at sewer facility and three projects related to storms. ■

## ZONE 7

Continued from Page 6

The increased water allocation to Zone 7 from the SWP marks far healthier water levels than allocations from the previous drought-stricken year had seen, with SWP allocation falling to as low as 5% for Zone 7.

"We are grateful to the Tri-Valley community for their successful efforts to conserve water during the drought," Board President Sarah Palmer said. "We recorded some of

the driest years on record for our area recently, and times like these remind us that water is a precious commodity."

With the conservation restrictions in place, Tri-Valley residents met the goal of reducing water usage in 2022 by 15% compared with the previous year.

"Working together, our community saved 1.7 billion gallons of water in 2022 and we thank every resident in our community who reduced outdoor watering, replaced grass lawns with native and drought tolerant

plants, saved their shower warm up water, and made other efforts to achieve these savings," Palmer said. "Your small changes have made a big difference."

While the conservation mandate is no longer in effect, residents are still encouraged by Zone 7 and state officials to continue water conservation practices they've adopted in recent years, and to recognize the uncertain future of water supplies amid unpredictable weather patterns over recent years that are expected to continue in the future. ■

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# Lab scientist named one of Time's most influential people in the world

Kritcher honored for role as principal designer for LLNL fusion ignition experiment

By TONY HICKS / BCN

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Andrea "Annie" Kritcher has been named to Time magazine's TIME100 list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Kritcher, a design physicist, was recognized for being the principal designer for the December 2022 National Ignition Facility experiment that produced nuclear fusion ignition in a laboratory for the first time.

Scientists fired 192 lasers at a target the size of a pencil eraser in the NIF experiment, achieving "energy breakeven," which means it produced more energy than was used in the effort.

The first-of-its-kind breakthrough is considered a major step toward a net-zero carbon economy.

The laboratory said in a statement the breakthrough "paves the way for advancements in national defense and the future of inertial fusion energy."

Kritcher leads the integrated modeling team within LLNL's Inertial Confinement Fusion program and oversees the integrated modeling of indirect-drive fusion designs fielded at NIF.

Kritcher said in a statement the process was a team effort, involving decades of developing models using experimental data and making design improvements to the fusion experiments.

"Reaching ignition was truly a large effort carried through many decades," Kritcher said. "I am extremely honored to be representing the laboratory and the many people who have worked on this grand



COURTESY LLNL  
LLNL design scientist Andrea 'Annie' Kritcher was named to Time's annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

scientific challenge to make this a reality, some of whom were working on this before I was born."

Kritcher said the experiment was an essential first demonstration of fusion target energy gain in a controlled laboratory setting, which proved there is nothing fundamentally limiting harnessing fusion as a clean limitless energy source.

"Humanity is driven and motivated by impossible problems, such as creating a miniature star in the laboratory and harnessing the power of nuclear fusion, that once we start to crack, we can collectively achieve amazing things and make life better for all," Kritcher said.

"This result is a monumental step for potential limitless clean energy and is also key capability in supporting our national security.

This recognition proves that the world is watching and agrees on our mission."

Kritcher started at the laboratory in 2004 as a summer intern. She completed her thesis work through LLNL and became a member of the technical staff in 2012.

In 2022, Kritcher was selected as fellow of the American Physical Society for her "leadership in integrated hohlraum design physics leading to the creation of the first laboratory burning and igniting fusion plasma."

Kritcher is set to be honored at the TIME100 Summit and Gala this week at the Lincoln Center in New York City. The TIME100 list is in its 20th year, recognizing the "impact, innovation and achievement of the world's most influential individuals." ■

## Cal Water infrastructure project underway in downtown Livermore

Aims to upgrade water supply reliability, fire protection

By CIERRA BAILEY

Those who live near or frequent downtown Livermore may have noticed new construction being conducted by California Water Service (Cal Water).

According to a statement from the agency, crews began work last week on a water infrastructure upgrade that aims to improve water supply reliability and fire protection downtown. The project will include

installation of about 800 feet of new water main and the replacement of individual service lines to connect customers to the new main.

"This infrastructure improvement project will help Cal Water maintain a reliable water supply for both everyday and emergency needs, while also preventing water loss from aging pipes," said John Freeman, Livermore district manager. "We thank all of our businesses, patrons, and motorists downtown for their

patience as we make these upgrades that will last for decades to come."

The work is taking place at three locations:

- 2nd Street, between K and L streets
- South J Street, between 1st and 2nd streets
- South K Street, between 1st and 3rd street

The construction is projected to be completed in June, with work scheduled during two timeframes each

day — Mondays through Thursdays — during the initial phase requiring the most construction in an effort to minimize the impact on residents and businesses.

Construction that causes more noise, like potholing and saw-cutting, will be completed during the day from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Digging, pipe installation and service tie-ins will take place at night between 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. Pedestrian access to businesses will be available at all

times, officials said.

Additionally, Cal Water will display "No Parking" signs 72 hours in advance of any parking areas that need to be cleared for construction. In an effort to minimize traffic delays and disruption, streets will be open to traffic whenever possible, and there will be no impact on the Thursday night Farmers Market, which kicked off on April 13 at Carnegie Park and continues every Thursday until October, according to Cal Water.

In addition to the current project, Cal Water recently completed replacing 2,470 feet of 6-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch water main along Locust Street, from O to K streets, and along P Street, from Pine to Linden streets. ■

## Computer tech Villalpando awarded DUSD Classified Employee of the Year

More staff across key departments praised for outstanding work district-wide

By NICOLE GONZALES

The Dublin Unified School District recently announced its 2022-23 list of Classified Employees of the Year, with computer technician Saul Villalpando from the Technical Services Department winning the top award district-wide.

Villalpando, who is assigned to Dublin High School, will represent the district in the Alameda County Classified Employee of the Year program. He shared his reactions to the award with the Weekly in an interview this week.

"I felt very honored and surprised to be chosen for the Classified EOY award this year. Out of so many hardworking staff members who put their all into what they do, it

was nice to even be among them," Villalpando said.

Earlier this year, Villalpando was selected as one of the district's "Equity Champions" in February for continuously celebrating dedication and fairness.

"I feel lucky to be recognized for the work I do. Every day I try to share the importance of lifting each other up and being kind to one another," Villalpando added.

In a press release, Dublin High principal Maureen Byrne spoke about Villalpando, his work ethic and commitment to the school.



Saul Villalpando

"Saul is everyone's go to guy, because no job is too big or too small and he handles everything quickly, efficiently, and kindly," Byrne said. "He is just a delight to be around. From early morning 'emergencies' during staff meetings to late afternoon issues, he shows up and resolves whatever issue we are facing."

"He has created a standard of excellence that our entire staff appreciates. Many of us at Dublin High could be missing for a day or two and the show would go on, but if Saul is out, we are in trouble," Byrne added. "Saul is an invaluable member of our team. Gael students and staff benefit greatly from his support."

DUSD Superintendent Chris

Funk also shared reflections on Villalpando and all of the department-level Classified Employees of the Year.

"We simply could not provide our students with the highest level of education without the support of our classified staff," Funk said. "The role this group provides is absolutely invaluable to the successful operation of this district. If everything behind the scenes isn't running smoothly, our teachers can't teach and our students can't learn."

The annual list is compiled to highlight outstanding and exceptional work from district staff members across various positions and fields in the district that serves more than 12,000 students from preschool to 12th grade.

Candidates are selected after a peer-nomination process.

The full list of DUSD 2022-2023 Classified Employees of the Year are noted as the following:

- Paraprofessional: Sandra Lenhardt.
- Clerical and Administrative Services: Sabina Jochim.
- Food and Nutrition Services: Marta Ramirez.
- Custodial and Maintenance: Sean Adams.
- Security Services: Mark King.
- Health and Student Services: Laura Larsen.
- Skilled Trades: Steve Peterson.
- Technical Services: Saul Villalpando.

"Those who provide support in the areas of maintenance, nutrition, health service, technology, site administration, finance and so many other areas are the glue that holds everything together. Thank you to all our classified staff and congratulations to these award winners," Funk added. ■

# Activist sues San Ramon after being detained, cited in 2021

Livermore man alleges civil rights violations and false imprisonment for incident at city hall

By JEANITA LYMAN

The city of San Ramon and top police officials are among the defendants in a lawsuit filed earlier this year by a Tri-Valley projection activist that alleges civil rights violations following an interaction with police officers outside city hall more than a year ago.

Alan Marling, a Livermore resident who is known for displaying messages via light projection critiquing Elon Musk on the outside of the Twitter building in San Francisco, filed a civil complaint on Feb. 28 demanding a jury trial to assess allegations of wrongdoing by city staff and police when he was detained and cited for projecting a message on the exterior of San Ramon City Hall in support of President Joe Biden's Build Back Better Plan in November 2021.

The San Ramon City Council discussed the litigation in closed session during their April 11 meeting, with nothing to report out to the public at the end. City attorney Martin Lysons excused himself from the session, given that he is a named defendant in the complaint, with deputy city attorney Alicia

Poon consulting with councilmembers in his place during the closed session meeting.

Along with the city and Lysons, defendants in the filing consist of recently retired city manager Joe Gorton, former police chief Craig Stevens, current Police Chief Denton Carlson, Sgt. Michael Pistello, Officer Rick Gonzalez, attorney Lance Bayer and Karen McHenry-Smith, executive assistant to the city manager.

San Ramon city officials have declined to comment publicly on the lawsuit. Marling's Danville-based attorney, Donald Wagda, also declined a request for comment.

In his lawsuit, Marling alleges that on Nov. 17, 2021, McHenry, at Gorton's direction, called the San Ramon Police Department to send "someone to come to City Hall" to confront him for projecting a message in support of the Build Back Better Plan, which was being considered in Congress at the time.

"As he had done earlier the same month at that location, Mr. Marling set up a tripod-mounted image (light) projector in a landscaping bed of a public park and projected a political message onto an exterior

wall of City Hall," Wagda wrote in the complaint.

Marling alleges that McHenry-Smith falsely reported to SRPD that his projection camera was propped up against a traffic light rather than in a landscaping bed.

According to the complaint, Pistello arrived at the scene to address Marling, showing him a screenshot of text describing portions of the city's municipal code that he said Marling was violating with the projected message. Marling alleges that the screenshot in question was taken from an email that had been circulated between Lysons, Gorton, and Carlson and/or Stevens, originally dated Nov. 11, 2021.

Marling alleges that the email asked recipients to report any encounters with him in the future, and argues that it describes the subsection of municipal code on public nuisance related to glare from lights as "probably the biggest stretch" in terms of prohibiting the projection activity.

"The targeting email targeted Mr. Marling for harassment and unjustifiable code enforcement action, indicating that the three code

sections could be shown to Mr. Marling should he be encountered in the future, to dissuade him from continuing his projection activity," Wagda wrote in the complaint.

According to the lawsuit, Gonzalez then arrived at the scene and conferred with Pistello, who informed him about a request from Stevens, before the officer proceeded to issue a citation to Marling for alleged violations of public nuisance and prohibited locations, messages and sign types.

In a meeting with Lysons and Bayer last July, Wagda argued that the former subsection was "unconstitutionally vague" and that the latter was "facially unconstitutional" in addition to not applying to Marling, who had been using a projector rather than a sign, according to the lawsuit.

However, Lysons and Bayer declined to dismiss any charges against Marling following the meeting, and the city opposed Marling's motion to dismiss the criminal case against him, with a trial commencing on Dec. 7.

Marling was acquitted of all charges on Jan. 12, in part due to Gonzalez and Pistello reportedly

providing conflicting testimony during the proceedings, with the former saying that Marling's projection equipment had been on the sidewalk rather than in the adjacent vegetation and the latter saying it hadn't, according to the lawsuit.

After the acquittal, Marling filed the civil complaint alleging numerous civil violations, including of the First, Fourth and 14th amendments and the Civil Rights Act, as well as false imprisonment for the 15 minutes he was detained by Pistello and Gonzalez outside San Ramon City Hall before being cited.

In addition to seeking general, punitive and statutory damages, injunctive relief and attorney's fees, Marling's complaint seeks a declaration from the city that the sign code he was cited for is "unconstitutional on its face".

The case is proceeding through the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and has been assigned to Magistrate Judge Alex Tse. A case management conference is scheduled for June 2 at 2 p.m. at the Phillip Burton Federal Building and United States Courthouse at 450 Golden Gate Ave. in San Francisco. ■

## WIND FARM

Continued from Page 5

service area," Lieberman added.

At the Livermore location, over 100 turbines produce the electric power needed to produce clean energy for Alameda County. The turbines are monitored 24/7 for faults and delays by the engineers. They can even be monitored remotely from homes.

According to on-site GE engineers, the windmills onsite can stand up to 380 feet tall and have blades as long as 160 feet.

One new program introduced to the site by EBCE is the use of AI-based animal detection system IdentiFlight. With dozens of metal stations and cameras placed throughout the farm, the IdentiFlight program can detect protected animals, such as birds and bats, and shut down nearby turbines to protect wildlife casualties.

Lieberman, a resident of Alameda County himself, expressed gratitude to be able to work on projects such as this one that offer clean energy to local customers.

"It's really rewarding to see this from a concept. We're lucky to have this great wind resource here in the county at the Altamont Pass," Lieberman said. "(Before we acquired it), the site used to have over 500 old turbines on it, and we replaced it with 23 new ones that generate even more electricity

than those 500 because these are so efficient. It's been super exciting."

When reflecting on the impact the energy center has had on East Bay residents so far, Lieberman said it extends far beyond power. The plant brought with it new jobs, resources and hope for greener solutions for energy.

"I feel like this is really one of the best outcomes of what EBCE is as an energy aggregator, to be able to build a project like this in our

community, bringing those jobs, making energy renewable and carbon free," Lieberman said. "An energy plant here in our county at a utility scale is just fantastic."

"It's one of our largest facilities and it's right here in the county. You can see it driving up the freeway, it's very exciting," he added.

To find out more about EBCE, the Scott Haggerty Wind Energy Center or other East Bay projects, visit ebce.org. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



**Spring break in Chile:** The Lam family of Pleasanton took the Weekly along on their trip to Chile, including a visit to Villarrica, home to one of the country's most active volcanoes.

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

## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Library Commission and Civic Arts Commission Special Joint Meeting**

Monday, May 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the City Council Chamber – 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Approve the appointment of the Teen Poet Laureate for the 2023/2024 School Year

#### **City Council Meeting**

Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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

- Receive the Climate Action Plan 2.0 annual update
- Adopt modifications to Objective Design Standards for Housing Sites
- Review and consider the City's legislative framework with the 2023 focus areas and establish the City's legislative positions on selected bills, and request City staff to monitor remaining legislation throughout the 2023 legislative session

#### **Human Services Meeting**

May 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the City Council Chamber – 200 Old Bernal Ave.

- Review and Recommend Updates to the Recreation Fee Assistance Program

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)

## HOME DEPOT

Continued from Page 5

are simply insufficient as I question why," Pleasanton Vice Mayor Jack Balch said on social media on April 19.

Mayor Karla Brown and a Home Depot spokeswoman issued separate statements publicly earlier last week, each lamenting the "senseless" shooting and offering condolences to Mohs' family.

Nearly 500 Tri-Valley residents, coworkers and friends of Mohs have been showing support for his family through a GoFundMe page. The account, which was created by Mohs' aunt Stacy Trujillo, has raised about \$35,000 since Trujillo first launched it last Friday with an original target goal of \$20,000.

"This fund is being started for my wonderful nephew Blake. Blake lost his life due to senseless gun violence trying to do the right thing and protecting others," Trujillo wrote on the page. "Blake lived a wonderful 26 years doing what he loved most, which included spending time with his family, volunteering as a camp counselor and Scout leader, church youth leader, a cadet with the Newark Police Department and earning the honor of Eagle Scout."

"Blake touched so many people's lives in his time here and was so very loved and will be forever remembered and missed," Trujillo added.

The money, which is going straight to Mohs' mother, will help pay for memorial services as well as his mom's goal of preventing anything like what happened to her son from happening to anyone else.

"Blake's mom hopes to provide protective life-saving vests to others in similar positions to save lives," Trujillo wrote on the



MOHS FAMILY GOFUNDME  
Blake Mohs died after being shot on the job at Home Depot.

GoFundMe page.

A probable cause declaration written by Pleasanton Police Department Officer Mark Sheldon and filed with the Alameda County Superior Court sheds light on what authorities say transpired on the afternoon of April 18.

Sheldon alleged video surveillance footage from the store shows a Black woman — later identified by police as Knapps — in a black facemask and white tracksuit enter Home Depot on Johnson Drive through the front lumber door a little before 2:15 p.m., walk around, grab a large yellow Dewalt box and leave through a rear door without paying.

The shoplifter is confronted outside by Mohs and another employee, a struggle ensues between her and Mohs, and he grabs hold of the stolen item, according to Sheldon. Knapps then allegedly grabs a gun from her purse while the two employees run with the merchandise back toward the store.

"Once the loss prevention officer gets into the store he turns towards Knapp(s) and there is another struggle over the stolen item. Knapp(s) is then seen shooting the

loss prevention officer from point blank range," Sheldon wrote, adding that Mohs was hit in the left side of his chest. "The loss prevention officer lets go of the stolen item and Knapp(s) is seen getting into the suspect vehicle with the stolen item."

Mohs was transported from the scene to an area hospital, where he died from his injuries later that day, police said.

Back outside the store, the shooter hopped into a getaway vehicle described by an eyewitness as a red Nissan Pathfinder, according to Sheldon. A Pleasanton police officer located the SUV on city streets but reportedly was never close enough to initiate a pursuit before the Pathfinder got onto Interstate 580 westbound.

Soon after a "be on the lookout" was issued to area law enforcement agencies, Alameda County Sheriff's Office deputies spotted the vehicle getting off the freeway at the Strobridge Avenue exit in Castro Valley, according to a probable cause declaration by Deputy Chase Swalwell.

Deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop but the driver — later identified by authorities as Guillory — allegedly failed to yield, drove the wrong direction down a one-way street and got back onto the freeway.

During the ensuing pursuit, the Pathfinder weaved in and out of traffic at more than 90 mph and drove onto the shoulder to pass, according to Swalwell, who added that "the front passenger door of the vehicle appeared to be swaying open and appeared severely damaged."

The ACSO fixed-wing aircraft was also involved in the chase, according to authorities.

The SUV ultimately exited at

Golf Links Road in Oakland, ran a red light, sped down the street and drove in the opposite direction of traffic at times to pass other vehicles, Swalwell said.

Authorities allege Guillory kept going until stopping near Knapps' home on Ney Avenue in Oakland at around 2:45 p.m. He got out of the vehicle and ran toward the apartment complex, attempting to evade deputies before surrendering 12 minutes later, according to Swalwell.

The lone adult passenger, Knapps "exited the vehicle while holding a 21-month-old juvenile in her arms, which she appeared to have been holding during the entire pursuit," Swalwell wrote.

Sheldon said he later interviewed Knapps after the arrest. "She positively identified herself from the Home Depot surveillance as the suspect stealing the items and being confronted by loss prevention. She also admitted to being in possession of a gun and it firing accidentally," the officer stated.

Authorities say they later learned both arrestees had criminal records: for Knapps, a 2014 conviction for grand theft in San Joaquin County, and for Guillory, first-degree burglary in 2013 in Santa Clara County and unlawful sexual intercourse in Solano County in 2015.

Both defendants are currently being held in Santa Rita Jail — Knapps without bail while Guillory's bail was set at \$325,000, according to the ACSO inmate locator. Both are set to have an entry-of-plea hearing today. ■



Benicia Knapps

After Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch rejected their case and deemed their claims "almost utterly without merit," SLD filed an appeal which was also ultimately denied by the California First District Court of Appeal in December of 2022.

At the time of writing, a request for comment from SLD about the Supreme Court decision was unsuccessful.

City officials acknowledged in an email that they were aware of the updated docket for the Supreme Court case but initially opted not to comment until reviewing the formal court ruling.

City Attorney Jason Alcalá later told Livermore Vine in a statement, "The City is pleased with the California Supreme Court's decision denying Save Livermore Downtown's petition. That decision upholds both the Appellate Court's published decision, and the Trial Court's judgment, that determined the City properly approved the Eden Housing project. The

Supreme Court's decision marks yet another rejection of Save Livermore Downtown's case, and confirms the prior court determinations that the case was almost utterly without merit and brought for the purpose of delaying an affordable housing project."

Former Livermore mayor Bob Woerner — who was embroiled in the debate over this project during his two-year term as mayor and several years before while serving on City Council — has continued to follow the case and expressed support for the Supreme Court's decision.

"I am grateful that after many years of needless and harmful delay SLD's meritless lawsuit is finally over," Woerner said. "The original suit was so weak that it was easy for the courts to justify forcing SLD to post a \$500,000 bond that can now be paid to Eden Housing as partial compensation for the much more significant damages caused by SLD's lawsuit. SLD's appeal to the California Supreme Court was

equally weak and contrived, and the court wasted little time in issuing its denial."

Woerner also addressed Move Eden Housing (MEH) in his comments — another group that filed a lawsuit last year challenging the city's decision to not process a referendum petition which sought to overturn the City Council's approval of an amended disposition, development and loan agreement for the Eden Housing development.

Both SLD and MEH share members and financial backers, including Joan Seppala — publisher of The Independent newspaper.

"MEH, which is also funded by Joan Seppala, should drop its own meritless lawsuit now rather than waste more time and money pursuing frivolous legal machinations that only harm our community," Woerner said. "The numerous court decisions rendered so far make it abundantly clear that MEH will not be able to prevent the much needed housing from eventually being built." ■

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## EDEN

Continued from Page 5

this development and look forward to welcoming low-income families and residents who are in dire need of finding a place to call home."

SLD filed its petition to the Supreme Court in early March. According to a previous statement from SLD, the petition sought to address "important questions of law related to the level of deference courts are to give to cities and counties approving housing projects and the findings that must be made as part of those approvals."

The group's initial lawsuit seeking to overturn the city's approval of the project — which is planned for the southeast corner of the Railroad Avenue and L Street intersection — was denied in trial court in February of 2022. The group argued that the project was inconsistent with Livermore's Downtown Specific Plan and violated the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

# POLICE BULLETIN

## Ex-PPD sergeant sentenced to 10 years in fatal DUI near Sonora

A former sergeant with the Pleasanton Police Department received a 10-year prison sentence from a Tuolumne County judge earlier this month after being convicted in the drunk-driving crash that killed another driver near Sonora just over one year ago.

A jury found Theodore “Ted” Young guilty of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and other charges — but acquitted him of the most serious charge, murder — in February after a five-day trial that saw a number of former colleagues appear in the courtroom in an apparent show of support for the retired police officer, which prompted one former PPD supervisor to condemn the turnout in a critical letter submitted to the court ahead of Young’s sentencing.



Ted Young

Prosecutors said Young, 64, of Sonora was drunk and using his phone while driving his Toyota pickup northbound on Highway 49/ Highway 108 near Chicken Ranch Road outside Jamestown at 5:15 p.m. Jan. 18, 2022 when he veered into the oncoming lane and slammed head-on into an Acura sedan driven by Rebekah Gall.

Gall, a married Oakdale resident who was raised in Modesto and worked as a social services eligibility specialist for the Tuolumne County government, died from her injuries at an area hospital three days later. She was 27.

“I wholeheartedly believe in our system of justice,” deputy district attorney Stephanie Novelli, who prosecuted the case, told the Weekly. “This case was not about Mr. Young being a retired officer. However the fact that Mr. Young had experience responding to DUI scenes and training in DUIs makes it that much more egregious and unfathomable that he would make the selfish decisions that he did on Jan. 18, 2022.”

“This case was about Rebekah Gall and her life being stolen from her family and her community because of the callous and reckless decisions Mr. Young made to drink, drive and be on his phone. I only hope that I was able to give some sort of peace and justice to her family,” Novelli added.

Impact statements from more than a half-dozen family members of Gall, including her husband and parents, were read aloud during the April 13 sentencing hearing, which also saw prosecutors play a three-minute cooking video Gall made for family and friends during the COVID-19 lockdowns, according to Novelli.

Young also spoke to Judge Kevin

M. Siebert during the sentencing hearing, which saw the defense argue for less than the maximum 10-year prison term with his years of police service among the mitigating factors.

When contacted this month, Young’s defense attorney Clint Parish referred the Weekly to a quote he gave to the Sonora-based Union Democrat, which covered the criminal case.

“My client wanted me to thank Siebert for his professionalism during the trial,” Parish told the newspaper. “We were hoping for a shorter sentence, but I told Mr. Young’s family to expect the full 10 years. Mr. Young’s family wanted me to express their condolences to the family of Mrs. Gall.”

Young, who was a well-recognized officer and sergeant with Pleasanton PD for 29 years, was subsequently convicted of misdemeanor DUI for an incident in Sonora in September 2017, nine months after he resigned from the department.

Judge Siebert took notice of the retired sergeant’s prior DUI and the lessons he apparently did not learn in the aftermath, according to Novelli.

During the sentencing, the judge told Young, “Past good acts do not absolve you from what you did to Rebekah and her family nor shield you from punishment ... I don’t believe you’re a monster, but I do believe you need to be sentenced to what is fair for the crime ... (a) callous disregard for human life,” according to the prosecutor.

Young, who has been in county jail custody since he was re-arrested on the elevated charge of murder the day after Gall died in the hospital on Jan. 21, 2022, must serve at least 85% of his 10-year term in state prison — other than the credits he received for time already spent in jail.

The trial occurred over five court days between Feb. 14 and Feb. 23 before the jury rendered its verdict on Feb. 23, according to Novelli.

Jurors ultimately found Young guilty of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, DUI causing serious brain injury and serious DUI with a blood alcohol content at or above 0.08% by someone with a prior DUI conviction, plus multiple enhancements. They acquitted him of murder for Gall’s death.

Young had a number of supporters in the courtroom during the defense phase of the trial, including some former colleagues in law enforcement. Three former colleagues who worked with Young at PPD wrote letters on his behalf ahead of the sentencing, according to Novelli.

Their identities weren’t released, and it was unclear whether any still work for PPD. Novelli said one described retiring from the department in 2015.

Pleasanton PD officials, including Police Chief David Swing, did not respond over the last week to requests for comment about Young’s conviction and the showing of support from his former colleagues.

The show of support for Young

during the trial drew the ire publicly of at least one former Pleasanton police supervisor. Retired Lt. Tom Fenner wrote a strongly worded letter to the DA’s Office and Gall family, which was used in the prosecution’s arguments during the sentencing phase.

“It was recently brought to my attention that several members of our department attended Ted’s trial and sat behind him to provide support. And while this is their right, I believe it sent the wrong message to both the Gall family and the general public,” Fenner wrote in part.

“I want you to know, along with D.D.A. Stephanie Novelli and the entire Gall family, that in my opinion, there are MANY current and retired members of the law enforcement community that were absolutely appalled by Ted’s reckless and callous disregard for human life. Though he had many years to effectively deal with his alcohol problem, he obviously failed to ever take the appropriate corrective actions,” Fenner continued, adding:

“Nothing can be done now to correct his irresponsible behavior that eventually led to Rebekah’s tragic death. But I am hoping Judge Kevin Siebert will see to it that Ted gets the maximum possible sentence under the sentencing guidelines so Ted never gets the chance to kill anyone else.”

Young worked the vast majority of his three-decade-plus career in law enforcement with PPD, from 1987 until December 2016. He logged prior service time with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the East Bay Regional Park District Police Department.

Young held a range of assignments with PPD as an officer and sergeant, including time with the narcotics division and a high-profile role in



COURTESY MUKUL KATIYAR

Firefighters evaluate the scene on Delucchi Drive in Pleasanton on April 20 after the residence was heavily damaged by an out-of-control tow truck.

local schools presenting as part of the D.A.R.E. drug abuse education program.

For part of that time, Young was half of a prominent police couple within the department, though they divorced several years before the fatal crash for which Young was just sentenced. His former spouse, Maria (Munayer) Sarasua, is now the police chief in Pacifica — Novelli said that Chief Sarasua was not involved in person or in writing in her ex-husband’s trial or sentencing.

—Jeremy Walsh

### In other news

- A Pleasanton residence was severely damaged last week when it was struck by an out-of-control tow truck, narrowly avoiding the resident and forcing him to leave his home.

A Pleasanton Police Department spokesperson confirmed that the house on Delucchi Drive in Pleasanton’s Asco neighborhood was too damaged to inhabit after it was

hit by a truck at approximately 10 a.m. on April 20.

The resident, Mukul Katiyar, said that he is now staying at a hotel after barely avoiding injury during the incident.

“I escaped miraculously by a couple of feet, but the house is severely damaged,” Katiyar told the Weekly.

PPD Sgt. Marty Billdt said that upon investigation, police believe the incident was a “freak incident” that was the result of bad luck, and that no evidence of malice or substance abuse were found to be behind it.

“It sounds like this maintenance crew was trying to load a tractor onto the bed of a tow truck, and the bed was in a downward position, and as they were trying to load this tractor ... the weight of the tractor caused the tow truck to get lifted up the front of it, which forced the tow truck in a forward motion causing the driver to lose control, so the driver lost control hit a parked car hit a fence and hit a resident’s house,” Billdt said. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### April 20

- Alcohol violation**
  - 1:34 p.m. on the 5000 block of Black Avenue
- Weapons violation**
  - 6:37 p.m. at Hopyard Road and Gibraltar Drive
- Theft**
  - 7:59 p.m. on the 3500 block of Utah Street
- Warrant arrest**
  - 11:29 p.m. at Gibraltar Drive and Hopyard Road

### April 19

- Alcohol violation**
  - 9:00 a.m. at Valley Avenue and Blackbird Drive
- Fraud**
  - 11:06 a.m. on the 4800 block of Golden Road
  - 12:33 p.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue
- Theft**
  - 2:59 p.m. at Main Street and Vervais Avenue
  - 6:58 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft
- Vandalism**
  - 3:35 p.m. on the 3400 block of Nevada Court

### April 18

- Assault/battery**
  - 8:51 a.m. on the 3100 block of Busch Road
- Vandalism**
  - 9:34 a.m. on the 1900 block of Zenato Place
- Homicide**
  - 2:14 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive
- Burglary**
  - 11:36 p.m. on the 5500 block of Serenity Terrace

### April 17

- Assault/battery**
  - 5:21 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Burglary**
  - 7:35 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Theft**
  - 9:35 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
  - 1:47 p.m. on the 4500 block of Dublin Boulevard
  - 3:12 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
  - 3:52 p.m., 3100 block of Weymouth Court; bicycle theft

- 4:16 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:09 p.m., 000 block of Vintage Circle; theft from auto
- Graffiti offense**
  - 1:07 p.m. on the 1800 block of Santa Rita Road
- Drug violation**
  - 3:25 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- Fraud**
  - 3:52 p.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive
- Vandalism**
  - 5:49 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

### April 16

- Trespassing/prowl**
  - 8:20 a.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive
- Vandalism**
  - 8:30 a.m. at Santa Rita Road and Mohr Avenue
- Theft**
  - 2:55 p.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
  - 5:57 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- Drug violation**
  - 10:13 p.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road

## 'The Song of the Nightingale' opening at Firehouse

### Tri-Valley Rep musical celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

BY NICOLE GONZALES

In recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre this weekend is debuting a collaboration with the city of Pleasanton to uplift art and voices in the community.

The performing arts group is producing "The Song of the Nightingale", a musical fairytale with themes of kindness,

true beauty and perseverance, at the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton from this Saturday (April 29) through May 14.

The story takes place in ancient China and follows a young kitchen maid, Mei Lin, who is informed that the Emperor of China is seeking the fabled Nightingale bird who possesses the power to bring hope through song. Lin offers to

find the bird in return for a higher status in the empire.

The deal between the Emperor and Lin quickly turns sour as the young girl learns valuable lessons about love and kindness. The musical adaptation, composed and written by Bay Area playwright Min Kahng, is based on the Hans Christian Andersen story, "The Nightingale", originally published in 1843.

The Tri-Valley Rep show stars local actors Ann Warque as Mei Lin, Myles Wu as Emperor and Mercy Wu as Nightingale.

Director Jepoy Ramos explained that the show was chosen in collaboration with Tri-Valley Rep and Pleasanton city staff. Together, the parties worked to select a production option that would represent and honor the upcoming Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, which runs annually from May 1-31.

"They wanted to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, and they thought let's produce a show that is written by an Asian American, and features an all-AAPI cast," Ramos told the Weekly.

"It's a simple story about finding your true self and sharing that love with your community, no matter where you are or your status in life. As long as you're true to yourself, you're able to uplift others and that will cause a ripple effect of good to the rest of your community," he added.

Ramos, an experienced thespian, has been involved in theater and performing arts for the past 17 years. He has served many roles on various live productions, including stage manager, actor and director.

When reflecting on his work with "The Song of the Nightingale" cast, Ramos shared positive and grateful sentiments and said he valued being able to highlight local AAPI voices for the upcoming heritage month.

"Working with this cast and staff has been a pleasure," Ramos said. "I've designed the rehearsal



JEPOY RAMOS

"The Song of the Nightingale" production by the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre stars Ann Warque (left) as Mei Lin and Mercy Wu (right) as Nightingale.

process to be short and intense, and everyone has been so professional in learning their lines, songs, choreo and working together to create and bring this amazing story to life."

"What I also like about Tri-Valley Rep is that it allowed us to hire an all AAPI cast and a staff full of allies allowing us to share this wonderful story, uplifting the voices from our community and working to help us spread the message of kindness and love to one another," Ramos added.

Above all, Ramos said he hopes that the production can deeply impact audience members.

"What I hope audiences will see is that it is possible for local theater companies to produce and support works written by people from our community and feature

an all-AAPI cast," Ramos said. "I hope that the audience will feel the passion from all of the artists and will embrace the themes of kindness and love. I hope they will walk away feeling good, feeling uplifted and feeling motivated to share good things with their community as well."

Tri-Valley Rep, mostly composed of volunteers, performs regular full-length musicals at various venues in the region, including at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore and Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

Evening shows of "The Song of the Nightingale" take place April 29, May 5, 6, 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. Afternoon shows are April 29, May 6, 7, 13 and 14 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase at [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org). ■



JEPOY RAMOS

Myles Wu is shown in his role as Emperor in "The Song of the Nightingale", which debuts this weekend at the Firehouse Arts Center.

# Sustainability in Livermore Valley Wine Country

Retzlaff, Concannon and Wente highlight environmentally friendly practices

By **CIERRA BAILEY**

The Livermore Valley may be well-known for its variety of wine selections at its more than 50 wineries, but the practices that go into making the wine are just as notable as the end result.

Environmental sustainability is becoming more widespread in winemaking and three Livermore wineries in particular are already ahead of the curve.

Retzlaff, Wente and Concannon vineyards have all implemented a number of measures from using innovative technologies to building habitats for wildlife in their vineyards in an effort to be kinder to the environment.

A California Certified Organic vineyard, Retzlaff uses no pesticides or herbicides, making the soil on the property biodiverse and in balance. The organic vineyard was planted on the site of a former sheep ranch and as a result, the soil had never been farmed even prior to planting the vines. Soil health is the most crucial component of sustaining agriculture, according to Retzlaff winemaker Aaron Taylor and his wife Salomé Taylor.

Instead of using herbicides to get rid of weeds, Aaron Taylor said that they allow them to grow at Retzlaff. While he said that he understands why people are concerned with weeds as they do take up some water and can create a microclimate for certain pests, they haven't been a major problem for their vineyards.

Furthermore, he said there are ways to eradicate weeds without using chemicals — such as mechanical discing — and they choose those options in the rare times that weeds do become an issue.

“To be sustainable in agriculture, you have to look at the future and at the health of our soils,” said Salomé

Taylor, who also maintains an organic garden on the property.

As for pests, Retzlaff looks to Mother Nature to manage problematic critters. They have nesting boxes for birds of prey on their property, inviting the natural predators such as owls and hawks to hunt for gophers, ground squirrels and moles.

However, the biggest pest issue — according to Aaron Taylor — is mold and mildew.

“We do get the Bay fog that comes in on summer mornings and that creates more humid conditions and an environment for mold and mildew occasionally, so our best way to battle that is with fresh air and sunshine on the grapes,” he said. In order to increase the grapes' exposure to direct sunlight, they conduct selective leaf thinning and canopy management which involves removing unnecessary branches, limbs, sprouts and leaves.

This process also helps the bunches of grapes mature more evenly, Aaron Taylor said.

“I think it's fair to say that the term sustainability is perhaps a bit of a catch phrase these days, but I think that the California Sustainable Winegrowing Program is really a step in the right direction. Anything an industry can do to make people more aware of their footprint is hugely important,” Aaron Taylor said.

Like Retzlaff, Concannon Vineyard also relies on birds of prey for pest control with owl boxes and hawk perches around its property.

Concannon winemaker James Foster echoed the Taylors about the importance of protecting the soil and maintaining its fertility for their industry. He also emphasized the critical need to conserve water, particularly in a state like California that experiences frequent drought.

“We have to be conservative on

saving water and make sure that we have plenty of water to thrive and feed our vines with,” Foster said.

One of the ways Concannon preserves water is with a drip irrigation system. The vineyard uses pressure-compensated, drip line emitters on all vines that open and close automatically under varying pressures to distribute water evenly to each vine, which greatly reduces water use.

While Concannon is not an organic vineyard, Foster said they are mindful about the amount of chemicals they use. “We want to make sure we're using the right amount of pesticides for our vineyards,” he said, adding that they keep the wildlife in mind and strive to avoid harming nature in their practices.

Concannon has been implementing its many sustainable practices over the course of several years. For example, back in 2009, they installed solar panels on the rooftops of their production facility, small lot winery and original winery and barrel room. According to the vineyard's website, the panels capture the sun's heat for regulating the perfect temperature for the grapes and wines.

Wente Vineyards is a certified sustainable vineyard and winery from the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance. Wente is among the less than 10% of wineries that hold both the vineyard and winery certifications.

“We really look at sustainability from a three-pronged approach — which is environmental sustainability, social equity and fiscal responsibility — so that we can continue our business and continue to provide jobs and community support to those around us,” said Niki Wente, director of vineyard operations.

Wente's sustainable methods include implementing regenerative farming practices to build and



COURTESY WENTE VINEYARDS

Limiting the use of pesticides like at Wente Vineyards (shown) or avoiding them altogether like Retzlaff is another approach that sustainable wineries take toward being more environmentally conscious.

maintain healthy soils and keep carbon in the ground, including having sheep graze the vineyard weeds in the winter to eliminate the use of tractors and chemicals.

The vineyard also puts a focus on water use. The wastewater at Wente is put into a water reclamation pond where it is treated, which is the most effective means for the biological oxidation of winery wastewater.

Using a combination of multiple technologies, including artificial intelligence and evapotranspiration sensors, Wente gathers information to create an irrigation program that helps them to apply water when the vines actually need it to avoid wasting water unnecessarily.

Wente said another practice they do is “skip chemical passes” in the vineyard.

“For example, if we're applying sulfur to prevent powdery mildew in the vineyards, if I'm able to skip a pass because it's a low pressure day based on a mildew model — so invest in the mildew model so that you can then skip a pass — from there you just saved on your chemicals, you're no longer applying the chemicals which

is also good for the environment because there's no CO2 release from the tractor going through the field, there's no chemicals being released, you're not having your employee on a tractor applying chemicals which is better for the employee,” she said.

“So it's three-fold: better for the employee, better for your pocket-book and better for the environment. That's what true sustainability looks like,” Wente added.

As for how sustainable farming impacts the wines these vineyards produce, Niki Wente said that overall, “doing the right thing for the grapes and the environment and everything around us, is going to improve the product ten-fold.”

All three vineyards also highlighted that they strive to maintain sustainable business practices in addition to their farming techniques such as making sure to value their staff with fair pay and benefits in a safe and healthy atmosphere, conserving energy and making financially sound decisions, encouraging visitors to their tasting rooms to recycle and bring refillable water bottles, among other efforts. ■

# Museum partnering with Sunol Wilderness for education series

Celebrate Community programming kicks off with history of Chinese railroad laborers May 13

By **JEREMY WALSH**

The Museum on Main's annual Celebrate Community series has a new partner for the 2023 season, the Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, whose naturalists will be central to the programming this spring and summer in downtown Pleasanton.

The series will start with a naturalist from the Sunol Visitor Center presenting on the history of Chinese railroad laborers on the West Coast in two weeks, followed by the annual Family Day on July 8 and MoM's Reading Time on Aug. 9 focusing on the regional preserve in southern Alameda County.

“We feel very fortunate to be a part of a community with so many amazing organizations working to enrich the lives of Pleasanton and Tri-Valley residents. It is an honor to be able to partner with and help spotlight one of these great organizations each year through our Celebrate Community programming,”

said Rachel Brickell, the museum's director of education.

Managed by the East Bay Regional Park District, the Sunol Wilderness park is the ancestral homeland of the Taunan Ohlone People and a vast environmental preserve open to the public for hiking, backpacking, birdwatching, picnicking and other activities. Its Sunol Visitor Center reopened last fall after extensive renovations including new educational exhibits.

“The naturalists at the Sunol Visitor Center provide unique public programming for all ages including nature journaling, educational activities about the park's ecosystem, and wildflower walks in the spring. It's important for the park naturalists to acknowledge and educate the visitors on the history of the land,” museum officials noted.

The series-opening pop-up program, “Chinese Laborers and The Transcontinental Railroad”, will take place from 1-3 p.m. May 13 and feature photographs, census records,

artifacts and activities designed “to educate visitors on the Chinese laborers who built the railroad and shaped the history of California,” organizers said.

The “Celebrate Community: Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve Family Day” will follow on the museum's front lawn from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 8, with programming for all ages highlighting the Sunol Visitor Center. “Activities might include learning about Ohlone-related objects and resources like tule, discovering fossils from the park's collection, and journaling about nature,” organizers said.

Finally, butterflies will be the theme for the final event: “Celebrate Community: Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve MoM's Toddler Reading Time” from 10-11 a.m. Aug. 9.



COURTESY MUSEUM ON MAIN

A naturalist-led spring wildflower walk in the Tri-Valley.

Attendance for each of the three programs is free. They will be held at the museum at 603 Main St. in downtown Pleasanton. For more information, visit [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org) or call 925-462-2766. ■

## PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

### Meet Cupid

This sweet, gentle guy is ready to be your forever Valentine. Cupid is a 16-month-old domestic medium-hair cat who loves scratches and playing with strings and ribbons. Open your heart to be struck by Cupid's arrow and meet him at the East Bay SPCA shelter in Dublin at 4651 Gleason Drive. Visit [eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org).

# Sports

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



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## PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

### Strong regular seasons continue for Amador, Foothill boys' volleyball teams

Also: Dons win all four levels at final swimming dual meet

The Amador Valley boys' volleyball team rolled to three straight wins last week, keeping a share of first place in the East Bay Athletic League's Valley Division.

The Dons took straight-set wins over Dougherty Valley, Livermore and California.

The win over Dougherty Valley allowed the Dons to honor their eight seniors, with each playing well in the match. The seniors — Haard Shah, Spencer Thiel, Tyler Homes, Jackson Mello, Colin Bowers, Bryce Nohava, Luke Melvin and Nate Clinton — led the way on the court as the Dons beat the Wildcats.

One night later, Amador knocked off Livermore by a 25-18, 25-16, 25-17 score.

Highlights came from Parker Brookhart, the Amador libero (10 digs, 9 service points, while leading the team in passing), Max Riter (9 kills) and Nick Nayak (6 kills, 8 service points). Aidan Husenjnovic (3 blocks, 5 kills) was the leader in the middle.

In the match against Cal, the Dons got great plays from Ryan Bury, Aidan Lam, Jack Baer and Ryder Kuckein, as the Dons rolled over the Grizzlies 25-15, 25-12, 25-13.

Across town, the Foothill Falcons' varsity team went 2-0 for the week and did so with a pair of straight-set wins.

First up was Granada, whom the Falcons beat 25-20, 25-21, 25-16. The highlights of the night came from Landen Meonske (22 assists, 9 digs, 4 blocks), Tyler Keala (13 kills, 2 aces) and Zach Seraj (9 service points, 8 kills).

The other win came 25-14, 25-13, 25-17 over Dougherty Valley. This time the highlights came from Noah Mitzenmacher (12 service points, 8 receptions), Jack Caudill (7 kills) and Ian Neuman (6 kills).

#### Amador swimming

Amador hosted Foothill for the final dual meet of the season, with the Dons taking all four of the levels — junior varsity and varsity for both boys and girls.

The JV won nine events, with freshman Susan Swyers leading the way winning both the 50 and 100 freestyles. She was also part of the



STEVE MITZENMACHER

Foothill's Cam Hitchan goes up to make a kill, with (from left) Tyler Keala, Landen Meonske and Noah Mitzenmacher covering.

winning 200 and 400 freestyle relays.

The JV boys won 10 events propelled by junior Colin Braga, who won the 100 individual medley and 50 fly. He was also part of the winning 200 medley and 200 freestyle relays.

The varsity girls won five events but were powered by a sweep in the 500 free led by freshman Lillyana Caples, followed by Mia Chang and Kylie Javier.

The Amador boys won seven events with Devyn Caples winning both the 100 butterfly and 500 free. He was also part of the winning 200 medley and 400 free relays.

Caroline Shimy won the JV girls' 1-meter diving with Ben Lentz taking the varsity boys' 1-meter.

#### Amador boys' lacrosse

The Dons won both games they played last week.

They started the week with a 14-6 win over Dougherty Valley. Owen Heck had nine points (1 goal, 8 assists) and Hunter Selkow had eight points (3 goals, 5 assists) to lead the way for the Amador offense.

Reed Shaw played his first game of the season due to injury and scored two goals. Suvir Kheny and Alexander Santana also scored goals. On defense, Dillon Duke collected five ground balls and forced two turnovers.

In a 12-3 win over Dublin, Will Coultrip (5 goals, 2 assists), Brady Macisaac (3 goals, 1 assist) and

Heck (2 goals, 2 assists) led the way on offense. Ayush Ahuja scored a goal and collected four ground balls. On defense, Duke collected six ground balls while Matteo Gervasoni forced four turnovers.

#### Amador baseball

The oldest rivalry in the EBAL saw Amador and Livermore split a pair of games last week.

In the first game of the week, the Cowboys pulled out a 2-1 win at Amador. The game was tied in the sixth inning when Livermore's Ray Castillo sac fly scored their second run for the lead and win.

There was strong pitching for both teams, with Brady Lederer of Amador allowing six hits and two runs over five innings, striking out nine.

Livermore starter CJ Johnston gave up one run and three hits over seven innings, striking out nine.

Two days later, the Dons woke up and pounded out a 14-1 win at Livermore.

Amador rapped 17 hits in the game, led by Tyler Kubo. Kubo doubled in the second and singled in the third, fifth, sixth and seventh innings, finishing 5-for-6.

Additional multiple-hit players included Riley Borges (4), Mitch Kreider (2) and Ross Kobayashi (2).

Matthew Foley got the victory for the Dons, allowing one run on two hits over six innings. He struck out four and walked one. ■

## Employment

### DelmiaWorks Software Engineering Specialist

Dassault Systemes Americas Corp. seeks a DelmiaWorks Software Engineering Specialist in Pleasanton, CA to create quality codes and share knowledge and experience with the team. \$132,870 - \$135,000/year. Apply at [jobpostingtoday.com/](http://jobpostingtoday.com/) Ref #56768.

### Senior Tax Accountant

Baker Tilly US, LLP seeks Senior Tax Accountant in Pleasanton, CA. Reviewing tax returns, tax provisions and tax consulting projects. \$108,000-\$113,840 per year. Apply @ <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> #38240.

### Sr. Product Designer(s)

Remind101, Inc. dba Remind seeks Sr. Product Designer(s) in San Ramon CA to find & prioritize dsgn problems. May telecomm. Travel to unanticipated locations req. Slry Rnge: \$143,000-\$186,000/yr + equity + bnfits. Comp dep on qualifications, skills, competencies, exp, & location. Var. comp is appl dep on job type. Resumes to [remindrecruiting@remind101.com](mailto:remindrecruiting@remind101.com) & ref Job #R22.



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### SOFTWARE ENGINEER – FRONTEND

Revanche Therapeutics, Inc. (Pleasanton, CA) to be rspnsbl for dvlpng visually appealing frnt-end wbste archtctre, incl trnsltng dsgner mock-ups & wireframes into frnt-end code; dsgnng user interactions on web pges using ReactJS, Java, Visual Studio Code, IntelliJ, & TblePlus tools. Master's in Cmpttr Scnce, Sftwr Engrng, or a rel. field. Must know (thru acad or work exp) sftwre dvlpmnt dsgn & abilty to implmnt scalable, fault tolerant systms that are PCI cmpltnt; prgrmmng skills w/ReactJS, Java & GrphQL; & autmted tstng, code qualty & engrng best prtctcs. May work from home part of the time. \$117,000 to \$130,000 per year. Send resumes to [humanresources@revance.com](mailto:humanresources@revance.com)

To place an ad or get a quote, contact Kevin Legarda at 650.223.6597 or email [digitalads@pawebly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawebly.com).

# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Entertainment

**LAS POSITAS COLLEGE HOSTS LIVE PERFORMANCE** The Manic Monologues at the Mertez Center for the Arts main theater. The event is sponsored by the LPC Foundation and is free and open to the public. 7 p.m., April 28.

**MUSIC CITY HIT-MAKERS: FROM NASHVILLE WITH STRINGS** These Nashville songwriters have written hit upon hit for the likes of Carrie Underwood, Kenny Chesney, Chris Stapleton, Tim McGraw and many more. Hear stories behind some of the biggest Nashville hits performed by the songwriters themselves. 8 p.m., April 28. Tickets \$20-\$65. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS** Del Valle Fine Arts presents the latest first-prize winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition, Spanish-born Martin Garcia Garcia. 7:30 p.m., April 29. Tickets \$55. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**THE SONG OF THE NIGHTINGALE** Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents The Song of the Nightingale, a magical, musical romp that reminds us that true beauty and worth is always found within. April 29-30; May 5-7 and May 12-14. Tickets \$25-\$42. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**EAST BAY JAZZ HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STARS** The East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars is an after-school program for high-caliber musical performance and education for high school jazz musicians. 3 p.m., April 30. Tickets \$18-\$28. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**BANKHEAD PRESENTS FAITH ALPHER** Audiences love Faith's explosive, comedic storytelling as you laugh your way through this comedy show. Her comedy is intimate, intense and wholly engaging. 8 p.m., May 5. Tickets \$25-\$45. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**PLEASANTON'S SUMMER WINE STROLL** Sip, shop and stroll during Pleasanton's annual Summer Wine Stroll where downtown locations become tasting rooms. Participants will discover downtown businesses, listen to live music and taste local wines and small bites. 5-8 p.m., May 6. Visit [pleasantondowntown.net/events](http://pleasantondowntown.net/events).

**MARIACHI SOL DE MEXICO** Mariachi Sol de Mexico brings mariachi to the Bankhead with passionate zeal, grace and power. 3 p.m., May 7. Tickets \$60-\$90. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

## Exhibits

**PAL'S PALS YOUTH ART SHOW & COMPETITION** Pleasanton Art League's youth art show for middle and high school students is at Stoneridge Shopping Center, next to the Apple store. Meet these budding artists as they demonstrate art styles. April 29-30.

**TEEN ART EXPO EXHIBIT** The Teen Art Expo artwork by Livermore

middle school and high school students, themed around Change, is on display in the lobby Art Gallery at the Livermore Civic Center Library now through April 30.

**EXHIBIT AT MUSEUM ON MAIN** She Sang Me a Good Luck Song: The California Indian Photographs of Dugan Aguilar, is a statewide traveling exhibition filled with stunning photographs revealing the richness and vibrancy of contemporary Native California cultures. On display at Museum on Main now through May 27. Visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

**JURIED EXHIBITION AT THE FIREHOUSE** The Fresh Works XI showing is made of up 72 artworks created within the past year by many of the region's most creative artists and selected for the exhibition by juror Ashley L. Voss, owner and director of Voss Gallery in San Francisco On display now through June 10 in the Harrington Gallery.

## Festivals

**FIRST WEEKEND ON MAIN** Every first weekend of the month come to downtown Pleasanton and enjoy street closures for roaming historical downtown, events and outdoor dining. 5 p.m., May 5-7.

## Outdoors

**PLEASANTON RUN FOR EDUCATION** The Pleasanton Run for Education at the Alameda County Fairgrounds includes a 5K, 10K and 2 mile distances. All three courses are designed for participants of all ages and athletic abilities welcoming runners, walkers and baby jogger strollers in all three events. 8-11:30 a.m., April 30. Visit [ppierun.com](http://ppierun.com).

**BACKPACKING 101** Meet a Ranger from the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and learn how to get started with backpacking and some local parks at which to backpack. 2 p.m., May 5. Civic Center Library. Backpacking 101, Livermore, Livermore.

## Talks

**UPDATES ON ALAMEDA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH** NAMI Tri-Valley presents this zoom presentation "Updates on Alameda County Behavioral Health" by director of Alameda County Behavioral Health, Karyn Tribble, PsyD, LCSW. 7-8:30 p.m., May 2. Visit [nami-trivalley.org](http://nami-trivalley.org).

**ALAMEDA COUNTY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER** Supervisor David Haubert will host the 3rd annual Alameda County National Day of Prayer at the Alameda County Fairgrounds Amphitheater. This interfaith event features a diverse lineup of speakers representing various faiths, as well as musical performances and moments of reflection. 10 a.m., May 4. Call 510-272-6674 with questions.

# Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME  
File No. 512056  
The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):  
ACTION 1 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
2340 SANTA RITA ROAD, SUITE 9  
PLEASANTON, CA 94566  
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON:  
11/30/2015  
UNDER FILE NO. 512056  
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):  
PLM INC  
3521 OLYMPIC COURT SOUTH  
PLEASANTON, CA 94588  
CALIFORNIA  
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Corporation.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on April 10 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

PARKWEST CASINO 580  
CASINO 580  
BAR TATAMI  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597145  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Parkwest Casino 580, 2.) Casino 580, 3.) Bar Tatami, located at 968 N. Canyons Parkway, Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CASINO 580, LLC  
1100 S. Flower Street, Suite 3100  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
California  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/07/2015  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 13 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

NO JOKE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597032  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) No Joke, located at 2037 Walnut st. Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CHRISTIAN CHACON COLIN  
2037 Walnut St.  
Livermore, CA 94551  
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 April 11 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

CUPIDO PASTRY  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596888  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Cupido Pastry, located at 1325 Brookline Loop apt 2310, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
ALESIA TSIURYNA  
1325 Brookline Loop  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
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 April 05 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

FAVOR  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: #595720  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) FAVOR, located at 1807 SANTA RITA RD STEH-190 PLEASANTON, CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
RICARDO WHITESIDE  
2812 Garden Creek Cir  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
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 February 22 2023.  
(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

JOY LIU MEDIA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596685  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Joy Liu Media, located at 451 Mission Drive, Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
JOY LIU  
451 Mission Drive  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/18/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 29 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

AMY ON DESIGN  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597170  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Amy On Design, located at 10 Castlewood Drive Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
AMY WEST  
10 Castlewood Dr.  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2022.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 14 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

PLEASANTON STAR DENTAL  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596330  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Pleasanton Star Dental, located at 2324 Santa Rita Rd suite 3 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CHANDANA VUNDAVALLI DDS INC  
4218 Chapman Way  
Pleasanton CA 94588  
CA  
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 15 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

SOCH STOCK  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596775  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Soch Stock, located at 5479 Sonoma DR, Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: Co-Partners.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
APOORVA HOODA  
5479 Sonoma DR  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
PULKIT HOODA  
5479 Sonoma DR  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
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 31 2023.  
(PLW Apr 28, May 5, 12 and 19, 2023)

BERNAL DENTAL GROUP  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596400  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Bernal Dental Group, located at 4466 Black ave, Suite K, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CHAITRA K BHAT DDS INC  
4466 Black Ave, Suite K  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
california  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/27/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 16 2023.  
(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
Case No.: 23CV029834  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Linda Marie Smith filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
LINDA MARIE SMITH to LINDA SMITH D'AMBROSIO  
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/23/2023, 9:30 a.m., Dept. 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612.  
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
PLEASANTON WEEKLY  
Date: 03/09/2023  
none listed  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the marriage heretofore subsisting between Leslie-Anne: Plettner and Deborah Susan Meyer is annulled due to fraud and lack of parental consent. The marriage of Leslie-Anne: Plettner, (formerly of 3250 Wyman Street, Oakland, California [94619-99999]) and Deborah Susan Meyer (living at 3250 Wyman Street, Oakland, Ca 94619) is null and void through the authority of Divine Harmony Temple.  
(PLW Apr 14, 21, 28 and May 5, 2023)

### The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/legal\\_notices/](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/)

For assistance email [LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com).



SPRING PREVIEW 2023

# Real Estate

COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

## Local real estate remains solid despite market distractions

No need to be nervous about homeownership in Tri-Valley

BY DAVID STARK

Pleasanton is still a great place to live; it's the rest of the world that is worrying homebuyers and sellers.

"There's recession fears, the possibility of interest rates going up, and of course there is insecurity in just the state of world affairs and that does have an effect at the local level," said Steve Medeiros, 2023 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors. "It affects people in a negative way. You hear buyers say, 'I'm worried about the world and that's why I don't want to buy' and it unsettles people."



David Stark

So far this year, homes are taking longer to sell. A home was on the market an average of seven days during March 2022. This March, it took an average of 23 days for a home to sell.

The number of homes sold is off, as well. There were 53 single-family detached homes sold during March

2022, compared with 31 sold during March 2023.

A major factor keeping buyers on the fence and homes on the market longer is significantly higher interest rates. According to the California Association of Realtors, during March 2022, a buyer could secure a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage with an interest rate of approximately 3.75%. During March 2023, the interest rate for the same type of mortgage was approximately 6.3%.

Higher rates mean less buying power. And while prices have dropped during the last year, they are still making buyers pause. The median sales price for a single-family detached home in Pleasanton during March 2022 was more than \$2 million. By February 2023, prices had dropped to \$1.4 million then rebounded to \$1.8 million during March 2023.

On the other side of the transaction, sellers are also concerned about their options and if the grass is actually greener somewhere else. "People in general are staying in their homes a lot longer than they used to. It used to be seven years;

now it's 11 or 12," Medeiros said. "A lot of that has to do with the environment you live in. I have many clients that can't wait to get out of this state because of the over-regulation and the burden of taxes. But they don't do it because they love it here. It's a catch-22."

Despite both buyer and seller concerns, Medeiros is bullish about Pleasanton real estate.

"The upside is that the market is good, and the market still works. When people put houses on the market, they sell," Medeiros said. "And we are in the most amazing

part of the world that everybody wants to be a part of. Those are the upsides. But yes, there's distractions that weren't here during the last five years."

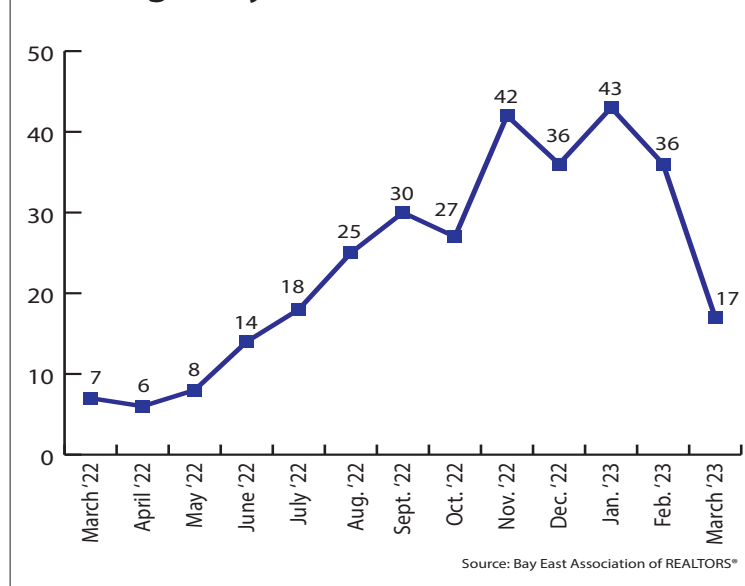
Medeiros cited Pleasanton and other Tri-Valley community characteristics that transcend economic cycles as part of its desirability.

"Quite frankly, the Tri-Valley has a very good reputation. It's the place where people these days want to migrate to," he said. "Part of that is the job base has broadened and you see a lot of high-tech jobs here. It's got the old-town feel that some towns in the Bay Area used to have. People now seem to want to migrate to Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin to get that feel that they had in their former homes."

Medeiros agreed that within the nervousness about real estate in general that there may be some exceptions in the Tri-Valley — and that of all the things people are worried about in the world, living in the Tri-Valley isn't one of them. ■

*Editor's note: David Stark is chief public affairs and communications officer for the Bay East Association of Realtors, based in Pleasanton.*

### Average Days on Market in Pleasanton



JUST LISTED



## 2280 Merlot Lane, Livermore

4 BR | 3.5 BA | 4 Car Garage | 3,940 SF | 12,004 Lot

Presented at \$2,200,000



- In Kottinger Ranch, Pleasanton
- 5 BR | 4.5 BA
- 4,000 + SqFt of living space
- Amazing Views
- Bocce Court, Basket Ball Court & Tennis Court

### Kottinger Ranch



Represented Buyers

In Livermore  
Sold at \$1,641,000



In Ruby Hill, Pleasanton  
Sold at \$2,552,000



In Oak Tree Farms, Pleasanton  
Sold at \$2,305,000

## Considering Buying or Selling ?

With 43 years of Real Estate experience, I'm committed to providing the highest level of service to all of my clients.

My mission is to provide outstanding service along with being a partner and source of knowledge to help clients make an informed decision about real estate. Providing expertise in negotiating skills, value in knowledge of the market, tools that create wealth for my clients, plus a professional reputation within the community. These attributes ensure that I exceed my client's expectations in selling and/or purchasing a home.

## Serving the Tri-Valley area for 43 years



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

*– Sellers Terry and Susan*

**Kris Moxley**  
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kris@moxleyrealestate.com



**COMPASS**

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

PLEASANTON

**1147 Mataro Court \$2,294,903**  
 Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00 4BD/3BA  
 Keller Williams Tri Valley 925-694-1761

Agents: Submit open homes  
 at [PleasantonWeekly.com/  
 real\\_estate](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate)

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (March 20-24)

**Total sales reported:** 14  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$655,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$4,500,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,426,142

**Highest sale reported:** \$1,750,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,268,750

Sunol (March 20-24)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,770,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,770,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,770,000

Livermore (March 20-24)

**Total sales reported:** 11  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$660,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,185,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,194,090

San Ramon (March 20-24)

**Total sales reported:** 10  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$625,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,170,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$955,000

Dublin (March 20-24)

**Total sales reported:** 8  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,015,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during March 20-24 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 3730 Angus Way** Vigil Family Trust to A. & H. Xie for \$1,550,000
- 3640 Annis Circle** Mcbriones Family Trust to V. & G. Gandhi for \$1,262,000
- 5750 Belleza Drive** J. & T. Khanuja to D. & H. Modi for \$890,000
- 683 Concord Place** W. Scheuffele to S. & A. Putatunda for \$706,000
- 464 Ewing Drive** Vicknair Family Trust to C. & Y. Hsieh for \$1,470,000
- 2641 Lotus Street** Bilkic Family Trust to C. & R. Nayak for \$1,460,000
- 849 Madeira Drive** Zarfoss Family Trust to S. & S. Guha for \$1,855,000
- 3109 Pawnee Way** Zca Homes LLC to S. Burange for \$655,000
- 211 Rachael Place** Erik Family Trust to S. & V. Rana for \$980,000
- 135 Ray Street** J. Milus to S. Mullapudi for \$735,000
- 1847 Rosetree Court** Schlereth Family Trust to Nigg Family Trust for \$1,087,000
- 4559 Ross Gate Way** K. Jung to P. & S. Deshmukh for \$1,716,000
- 2609 Starling Court** A. Koester to J. & S. Wedge for \$1,100,000
- 1473 Via Di Salerno** Kohler Living Trust to M. & R. Delacruz for \$4,500,000

**881 Tranquility Circle #8** Vance Living Trust to K. Carlson for \$930,000

**1855 Vancouver Way** Estrada Family Trust to F. & N. Vispute for \$1,500,000

**923 Via Seville** A. & K. Jafri to M. & S. Taylor for \$1,060,000

Dublin

- 2776 Alliston Loop** K. Liao to Crowell Trust for \$1,500,000
- 7391 Bedford Way** Galvin Living Trust to L. & L. Lai for \$1,015,000
- 8250 Cardiff Court** Froines Family Trust to Liu Family Trust for \$1,130,000
- 5610 Central Parkway #301** A. Mehta to J. & S. Gambino for \$1,210,000
- 11708 Corto Court** C. & S. Bellone to Q. & J. Mui for \$1,750,000
- 5692 El Dorado Lane** Luo-Tong Trust to P. Pandit for \$1,075,000
- 5876 Hillbrook Place** L. Tan to P. & P. Viswanathan for \$1,120,000
- 5816 Nugget Way** R. & K. Chaudhary to G. & S. Dussa for \$1,350,000

Sunol

**7455 Sheridan Road** Peters Living Trust to Z. & H. Wang for \$1,770,000

San Ramon

- 9690 Alcosta Boulevard** L. Tang-Ospina to B. Sachdeva for \$925,000
- 120 Cortona Drive** D. Raj to M. & I. Nabiunty for \$1,510,000
- 3837 Crow Canyon Road** R. & I. Punt to Chandorkar Living Trust for \$930,000
- 53 Dunbarton Court** Hoefs Family Trust to Avinash Trust for \$2,170,000
- 744 Lakemont Place #7** J. David to Y. & L. Zhang for \$980,000
- 2554 Marsh Drive** A. & D. Mahoney to T. & F. Gong for \$1,650,000
- 1012 Nancy Lane** Takeuchi Family Trust to T. & R. Lin for \$1,015,000
- 303 Norris Canyon Terrace** A. & A. Massoumi to S. Heidberg for \$647,000
- 4700 Norris Canyon Road #205** Jew Living Trust to H. & H. Zhao for \$710,000
- 705 Watson Canyon Court #103** G. Anand to K. Donohue for \$625,000

Source: California REsource

Livermore

- 787 Barleta Lane** J. & M. Sanford to K. & L. Tregear for \$2,185,000
- 3635 Carrigan Common** Frick Family Trust to S. Busireddy for \$660,000
- 5560 Firestone Road** Kurtzer Trust to W. & J. Caron for \$765,000
- 2960 Greenville Road** Miller Family Trust to Lebon Family Properties LLC for \$1,650,000
- 1270 Gusty Loop #7** Lee Trust to X. & J. Zhou for \$880,000
- 1643 Honeysuckle Road** A. Carrillo to C. & M. Mukherjee for \$985,000
- 1279 Marigold Road** R. Jordan to W. & T. Isaid for \$870,000
- 130 Prato Way** Mera Trust to S. & N. Tambe for \$1,650,000



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2637 VISTA DIABLO COURT, PLEASANTON

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5 BED | 3 BATH | 2,750 SQ FT +/-

Perched at the end of a large court with stunning expansive views of Pleasanton's open space. Enjoy a functional floor plan for day to day living and perfect for entertaining. Located close to Downtown Pleasanton, award winning schools, trails and shops.



SCAN TO VIEW

267 W. GASPARA DRIVE, MOUNTAIN HOUSE

LISTED AT \$560,000  
3 BED | 3 BATH | 1,799 SQ FT +/-



SCAN TO VIEW

This stunning corner unit offers an open floor plan, recessed lighting, cozy fireplace, a spacious kitchen with plenty of cabinet space, breakfast bar, and much more. Surroundings include beautiful parks, top rated schools, and walking trails. Appreciate this hidden gem just minutes from the freeway.



4896 DRYWOOD STREET, PLEASANTON

NOW PENDING!  
4 BED | 2.5 BATH | 2,460 SQ FT +/-

Welcome to this beautifully maintained home located in the highly sought after Stoneridge neighborhood. Enjoy the bright and inviting open living room with fireplace, the kitchen equipped with appliances, granite countertops and ample storage. The backyard is perfect for entertaining with a large built in bbq area that overlooks a sparkling pool and spa.



**\$65M**  
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**1164 Hopkins Way**  
Ventana Hills, Pleasanton  
**Just Sold**



**3 bedrooms | 2.5 full baths | 2,550+/-SF | 11,500 SF lot**

In the coveted Ventana Hills neighborhood, relaxed elegance in this single-story home with a rich mix of textures, including arched windows, angled walls, skylight in living room and soaring vaulted ceilings. Impressive entry with gorgeous tile and accent detail. The U-shaped updated gourmet kitchen and breakfast bar end in a wall of windows for picture-perfect meals. Stainless appliances and white cabinets compliment the home. A deluxe primary suite offers garden access and a large sitting area. Updated primary bath offers dual vanities, large soaking jet tub and large walk in shower with frameless glass. Most rooms have new flooring of carpet or luxury vinyl tile. Two secondary bedrooms and office/bedroom offer flexibility to enhance any need. The large lot offers a patio, deck, large grassy area for a possible pool site and free-standing hot tub/spa. All of this in your private lot, with fruit trees, next to open space. Close to downtown Pleasanton, shopping and freeway.

**Sold for \$2,205,000 | 4 offers over asking price**  
**I can sell yours too? Just call Janice**



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**CONNECT** *California* **HOMES**

*Just Listed*



**1522 CHATHAM PLACE, PLEASANTON**  
**2 BED | 2.5 BATH | 2372 SQFT**

**LISTED AT \$1,649,000**

**Located in the active adult community, Ironwood Estates.**

This home has a flexible and open floor plan with a private primary suite and a den that can be used as a home office or third bedroom. It also offers a formal dining space, granite island, and eat-in kitchen dining option. The Villages at Ironwood is a gated community with built-in community features. Connect with me for more details or to schedule a tour!

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**A message from our Publisher, Gina Channell Wilcox**



**Gina Channell Wilcox**

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

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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EXCELLENCE

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696 Merlot Court  
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549 Tawny Drive  
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**SOLD**  
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100k Over List Price  
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**609 BLOSSOM COURT, PLEASANTON**

5 BD | 4.5 BA | 6,448 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE  
1.75 ACRE LOT

Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime to own the crown jewel in the carriage estates neighborhood, and quite possibly in all of Pleasanton. This incredible flat 1.75-acre premium private parcel is conveniently located within the city limits with those amenities, but also provides scenic country living & hillside views! Drive up, push a button and your entrance gate at the end of Blossom Court welcomes you into your own private secluded estate. If you're a car collector, tennis player or swimmer, look no further! Included is 14-car garage and/or motor home parking with epoxy flooring, tennis court with observation deck, covered in-ground solar heated swimming with child safe cover. There is room to build guest house(s) and even a family compound is an option. Beautiful spacious landscaped grounds, also includes separate horse stall(s) and dog run area. This mostly single-story solar powered custom home has approximately 6448 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 4 full bathrooms, and a powder room. Also included is a great room, separate billiards/game room off family room, movie viewing room (separate guest quarters with 2nd kitchen option), wine cellar and a bonus loft (flex space) area. This home & property are great for entertaining! Other upgrades include: newly paved asphalt circular driveway, upgraded landscaping, new interior paint, new carpet, new water main, and new electrical upgrades. This south Pleasanton location is convenient to southbound commute, downtown, and newly renovated Castlewood Country Club. Within attendance area for top rated schools. Don't miss this one! For more info and photos go to 609blossom.com.

**LISTED FOR \$4,495,000**

**OAK HILL**

**NEW LISTING  
OPEN HOUSE  
SAT & SUN 1-4PM**



**7702 OAK CREEK COURT, PLEASANTON**

5 BD | 3 BA | 2,500 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE

Stop and smell the roses at this spacious, move-in ready home with a stunning curb appeal in a sought-after cul-de-sac location. This north-west facing Oak Hill property offers over 2500 sqft. of comfortable living: five bedrooms and three bathrooms with park like front & back yards. This home will check all your boxes: a full bed & bath downstairs, vaulted ceilings, stunning real American walnut hardwood floors, whole house water filtration system, Nest thermostat, EV-charger, copper plumbing, recently replaced roof, crown molding, recessed lighting and a sound system throughout... and so much more! The beautifully landscaped front yard is drought tolerant with recently installed artificial lawn and decorated with gorgeous rose bushes, Japanese maples, and mature trees. Relax on your backyard patio surrounded by ridgeline views, delicious fruit producing trees, and the fragrant scent of jasmine. Enjoy easy access to nearby walking trails, a community pool, a community clubhouse and playground. Located close to all three levels of award-winning Pleasanton schools along with convenient access to 580/680, the Bart station, and the nearby downtown Pleasanton. If you are looking for an amazing home located in a fabulous neighborhood look no further...This is the one! For more info and photos go to 7702oakcreek.com.

**LISTED FOR \$1,895,000**

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another broker. The above information, is based on data received from public sources or third parties and has not be independently verified by the broker, Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty. If important to readers, readers are advised to verify information to their own satisfaction.

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SOLD FOR \$1,580,000 | REPRESENTED SELLER



### 3590 CHURCHILL COURT, PLEASANTON

SOLD FOR \$1,900,000 | REPRESENTED SELLER



### 1522 CHATHAM PLACE, PLEASANTON

LISTED AT \$1,649,000 | REPRESENTING SELLER



### 1157 RIVER ROCK LANE, DANVILLE

SOLD FOR \$1,400,000 | REPRESENTED BUYER



### 16459 TESLA ROAD, LIVERMORE

SOLD FOR \$1,685,000 | REPRESENTED SELLER



### 852 CAMELBACK PLACE, PLEASANT HILL

LISTED AT \$499,000 | REPRESENTED SELLER

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



4102 PLEASANTON AVE, PLEASANTON  
OFFERED AT \$1,839,000  
4 BED | 2.5 BATH | 2,159 SQFT



3839 ANTONINI WAY, RUBY HILL  
REPRESENTED SELLERS



3218 NOVARA WAY, RUBY HILL  
REPRESENTED SELLERS & BUYERS



4132 PARMA COURT, RUBY HILL  
REPRESENTED SELLERS



885 BRICCO COURT, RUBY HILL  
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4471 LINDA WAY, PLEASANTON  
REPRESENTED SELLERS



66 EDGEWAY COURT, DANVILLE  
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