

PIEDMONT POST

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING THE CITIZENS OF PIEDMONT

Voter information for upcoming election

By Allyson Aleksey

The 2020 general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3. The first day of Vote by Mail Ballots and Early Voting being mailed to voters will be next Monday, October 5. The last day for voters to request a Vote by Mail Ballot is October 27.

The early voting period runs for one month, from October 5 to Monday, November 2.

All registered voters in California will receive a ballot by mail. Voting precincts and voting locations will be available to voters as well.

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters has listed all polling locations for the upcoming election. Piedmont will have five voting locations:

- Precinct 280100: Veterans Memorial Building, Side B, 401 Highland Avenue
- Precinct 281300: Veterans Memorial Building, Side A.
- Precinct 280700: Ellen Driscoll Playhouse, Havens School, 325 Highland Avenue
- Precinct 280500: Piedmont Community Hall, 711 Highland Avenue
- Precinct 281000: Corpus Christi Church, Gibson Center, 322 St. James Drive
- Precinct 281600: Kehilla Community Synagogue, Fellowship Hall, 1300 Grand Avenue

There are currently four City Council candidates, with two seats available on council. There are five school board candidates, and three seats available. Residents wishing to become write-in candidates can obtain nomination paperwork from the City Clerk's Office, 120 Vista Avenue, until October 20.

Two measures have been placed on the November 3 ballot:

Measure TT: Increase of the City's Real Estate Transfer Tax

Measure UU: Authorization for the City to sell bonds for \$19,500,000 to construct a new pool facility at the existing site.

New diversity advocacy group tackles housing equity in Piedmont

By Allyson Aleksey

The Piedmont Racial Equity Campaign (PREC), a newly created grassroots group aimed at promoting racial sensitivity, presented an informative forum on September 24 entitled "Racial Segregation and Housing in Piedmont: How Did We Get Here? What Can We Do About It?" The panel discussion was co-sponsored by Piedmont Anti-Racism and Diversity Committee (formerly known as Piedmont Appreciating Diversity Committee),



Gloria Bruce

and the League of Women Voters of Piedmont.

Panelists included Gloria Bruce, Executive Director of East Bay Housing Organizations, California College of the Arts associate professor Irene Cheng, and Piedmont resident Carol Galante, Professor in Affordable Housing and Urban Policy at UC Berkeley.

The forum was moderated by Sarah Karlinksy, Senior Policy Advisor for the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR).

PREC was formed following the death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer, and the protests that ensued in Piedmont and continue

See Housing Equity on page 32

INSIDE

Vendors in Piedmont?	1
Letters.....	2,3,4,11
Question Man	4
LWV Election Forum	5
Schools	6
John Stewart.....	8
PPD Blue	9
Candidates' Q&A	10
Sports	12
Piedmont Choirs	16
Music	17
Movies	18
Movies for Kids	19
Musical Gourmet	20
History of Piedmont	21
Piedmont Pantry	22
Beer Barrel column	23
Seniors Page	24
Salvation Army Gala.....	28



An architectural rendering of the new theater, to be completed in Fall 2021, as seen from Magnolia Ave.

A small look at new Alan Harvey Theater

By Jay Russell

The construction of the new Alan Harvey Theater building at Piedmont High has been underway since this summer, with a target date of completion set for August 2021. The Alan Harvey Theater, which was built in 1975, has already been torn down and in its place now stands the three-story STEAM building.

In total, the new theater will be 22,701 square feet, a space larger than the total combined area of all the buildings at Wildwood

Elementary (20,208 square feet). The theater will have 459 seats and an additional 30 side orchestra seats. While the old theater had a similar number of seats, an important improvement will be a large lobby with a capacity of 466 people.

The performance space is large, with an occupancy of 256 people on stage. The new building will have a men's and women's restrooms, and two single occupancy restrooms. The first floor also includes a 500-square foot green room and two dressing

rooms.

The second story of the theater will have 7,088 square feet, including a 1,600-square foot drama classroom. The second story floor plans call for a balcony overlooking the lobby, a drama department office, conference room, and control room for sound and lights.

This design of the new building aims to correct some of the concerns found in a 2016 Facilities Master Plan survey of all Piedmont school sites. The old

See Theater on page 32

City to allow public vending

SB 946 requires cities to implement comprehensive sidewalk vending plan

By Allyson Aleksey

According to a state law enacted nearly two years ago, Piedmont must now allow vendors on public property throughout the city.

Historically the city has not allowed public food vending other than for special events, both public and private. Provisions of Senate Bill 946 have required the city to amend its current solicitor regulations.

The Piedmont City Council held a first reading of a proposed ordinance of the new regulations at their meeting on September 21.

SB 946 went into effect on January 1, 2019, establishing state-wide regulations of vending on public sidewalks and in public parks. The bill, signed in 2018 by former Gov. Jerry Brown, states that its purpose is to promote entrepreneurship and support immigrant and low-income communities by decriminalizing the selling of food and merchandise on public sidewalks and parks.

The law requires that cities allow sidewalk vending, and restrictions may only be imposed if related to public health, safety, or welfare. The city may prohibit sidewalk vendors near farmers' markets, swap meets, or areas subject to a temporary special permit.

The city may not prohibit

a vendor from selling food or merchandise in a park and may not require the vendor to obtain approval before selling merchandise. In the past, a permit has been required, similar to permits for door-to-door solicitors.

The city may not restrict vending to a designated neighborhood or area, although the city may prohibit a stationary sidewalk vendor from operating in areas zoned for residential uses only. Additionally, the city may not restrict the number of sidewalk vendors.

Piedmont has historically not allowed vendor activities on public sidewalks or on city streets. To comply with the provisions of SB 946, the city has drafted an ordinance establishing a program to permit sidewalk vendors.

Existing Piedmont City Code provisions regulate peddling and other forms of mobile vending. Prior to the September 21 council meeting, city staff recommended that council consider modifying these existing provisions. The provisions that were discussed at the council meeting did not include regulations for food trucks.

Councilmember Jen Cavenaugh brought up the question of specific locations in Piedmont parks where a vendor may sell food or merchandise in trucks. "That's a different area

entirely, that the city and department heads like [Planning Director] Kevin Jackson and myself have discussed," said Police Chief Jeremy Bowers. "We're researching those codes that need to be in place."

City Administrator Sara Lillevand added that the first reading of this ordinance does remove an obstacle in the city's existing code for food trucks. This allows the council to revisit the topic and potentially expand the use of food trucks.

Cavenaugh noted that there is "a lot of potential in [Piedmont] if done well."

City Clerk John Tulloch confirmed that residents who operate a business within their home are subject to certain regulations, such as signage. However, the city does not require the same permits or materials from those operating businesses in their home because it is being conducted on private property as opposed to public property.

Since 2016, the Piedmont Police Department has approved 26 solicitor permits.

The first reading was unanimously approved.

"This is responsive to state law but also responsive to the needs of our community, in giving a reasonable amount of control and discretion on how we proceed," Mayor Bob McBain concluded.

OPINION

VIEWPOINT

What was the City Council thinking?

By Andy Wasserman

The primary responsibility of the City Council is to maintain the high level of public services for the City, keeping in mind the limited financial resources available in a city of roughly 10,000 people. Therefore, it was shocking to me to see the following paragraphs in the minutes of the April 20, 2020, City Council meeting (emphasis added):

[City Administrator] Ms. Lillewand ... indicated that high-quality public safety services are a core function of the City and that there were possible compliance issues with state law regarding essential facilities.

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers discussed the Police Department facility not complying with the Essential Services Act, the need to retrofit the Public Dispatch Center, overcrowded rooms and offices, the lack of secured access to the building, the lack of Code-compliant parking, insufficient restrooms and locker rooms and inadequate provisions for personnel, and the need for infrastructure to support the Next Generation (NG) 911 system.

Fire Chief Bret Black summarized deficiencies in space for fire apparatus and equipment; seismic features such that an earthquake would cause signif-

icant structural damage to the Fire Station; fire sprinklers; adjacencies between the apparatus bay and decontamination, shop, laundry, and turnout gear storage areas; separation of the hot zone from working and living areas; dormitory and restroom facilities; storage space; and cleaning and maintenance facilities for apparatus. He added that the facility does not have an elevator even though it has three levels.

So, rather than deciding to spend money on maintaining public safety services, on ensuring that the Police Department complies with the California Essential services Act, and on having a Fire Station that does not fall down during an earthquake, the City Council felt that its top priority was to hit up its citizenry for \$20 million to build a new swimming pool.

What was our city council thinking? If the City is going to raise \$20 million in new taxes, shouldn't it spend the money on *essential core functions*, especially given the existing deficiencies highlighted above? My question is: what is more important to *you* – spending money to keep Piedmont safe, especially in the aftermath of a major disaster, or having a new pool? Think about it, then vote **NO** on Measure UU.

Piedmont Post news racks at 2 locations

Newsstand copies of the *Piedmont Post* are available at Mulberry's Market, and Piedmont Shell at Grand & Wildwood Avenues.

Copies of the paper may be purchased for \$1 at all locations during business hours. Weekly delivery to homes in Piedmont and online access is available by subscription. Call 922-8711 for information. Or go to piedmontpost.org/subscribe.

PIEDMONT POST

1139 Oakland Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611

Phone: 922-8711 • email: news@piedmontpost.org

Publisher & Editor: Gray Cathrall

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Victor Cheng

REPORTERS

Barry Eitel
Allyson Aleksey
Jay Russell
Ed Gilligan

SPORTS

Jonathan Comeaux
B. Durham

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Rob Yelland
Sam Deane
Brian Mahany
Ken DeCrosta

CARTOONS

Flip - Phil Witte
Editorial - T. Brian Kelly

WEB DESIGN

Diana Lim
Natalie Lim

COLUMNISTS

Consumer Affairs
Wiley Hoag

Cooking

Deborah Quok

Education

Sue Porter
Sarah Shaffer
Nina Meehan
Nicky Mora
Katie Pengilly

Finance

T.J. Stevko

Overseas Columnist

Pat Forsyth

Professional Services

Philip Anderson
Suzanne Arca
Laura Martin Bovard
Jim Gardner

Seniors

Cookie Segelstein
Ben & Leah Bloom
Tim Johnson

Student Writer

Crystal Vacker

REVIEWERS

Art
Anastasia Edel

Dance

Jaime Robles

Film

Chris Honoré

Music

Jaime Robles

Paul Hertelendy

Joseph Gold

Theater

Robert Lee Hall

Wine

Pierre DuMont

Misc

Melanie Johnston

ADVERTISING

Nancy Kurkjian
510-626-2468

CIRCULATION

Call 510-652-2051

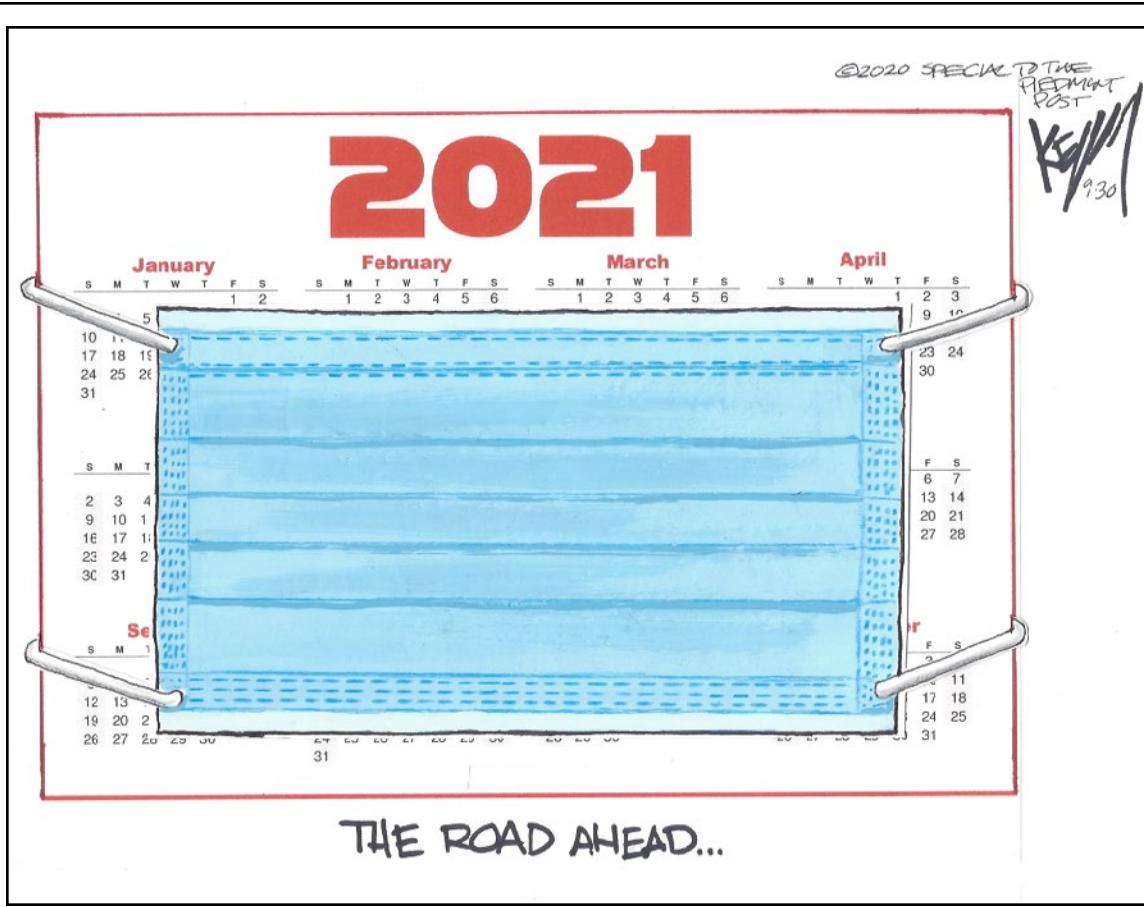
The *Piedmont Post* welcomes its readers to express their opinions on any topic. Columns in the *Piedmont Post* are exclusive and may not be reprinted without permission.

The Post reserves the right to edit any pieces or letters submitted. Opinion pieces should be limited to 400 words, letters to the editor to 200 words.

Photo submissions: Please submit photos at 6 inches in width and at a resolution of 200 dpi in jpeg format.

Do you have some news? Place any photos or stories in the mailbox at 1139 Oakland Ave., or email them to news@piedmontpost.org. It's that easy. (Send us an attachment or cut and paste your text into the body of the email.)

The deadline for submitting news, photos and opinion items is Friday.



Letters to the Editor

Clarification of role of PCC Transitional Minister

Editor:

I want to commend Allyson Aleksey for her superb article about Reverend Bill McNabb's retirement after 19 years of his leading Piedmont Community Church (hereafter "PCC"). Ms. Aleksey's article captured the many contributions Bill has made to PCC and to the larger local and international community during his 19 years as Senior Minister.

There is one inaccuracy in the article which I would like to correct since it is directly relevant to the PCC's immediate future and will clarify to readers what is in store during the coming months' transition period. The inaccurate statement is that "[t]he church hired Dr. Steve Schibsted the week of August 24 to lead a search for McNabb's successor". In fact, Rev. Dr. Steve Schibsted was hired, after an exhaustive search by a Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee (of which I was a member), to serve as PCC's Transitional Pastor beginning January 1, 2021. Between

now and January 1st, current Associate Minister Rev. Dr. Donald Ashburn will serve as PCC's Acting Head of Staff.

This correction is important because, as PCC's Transitional Minister, Rev. Dr. Schibsted will actually be doing much more than just assisting PCC in the search for a successor to Bill McNabb. He will, in effect, be the acting Senior Minister, which means that he will fulfill all the roles of that position, including leading the weekly worship service, preaching, pastoral care, heading up PCC's talented staff, working closely with PCC's elected Board of Trustees on all matters of church management, and dealing with the host of issues raised by COVID-19 (such as how to care for Congregants, when and how to resume on site services, impacts on fundraising, missions, etc.).

The Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee, which held more than 30 online meetings and interviews, sermon reviews,

extensive reference and background checks and final exhaustive forced-ranking exercises, concluded that Steve Schibsted was the best candidate out of a very strong pool to serve as PCC's Transitional Minister for as long as necessary. Steve received his Master of Divinity (M.Div.) from Princeton Theological Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) from Fuller Theological Seminary and has been a Senior Minister for over 20 years. He and his wife Leslie have a home in Rockridge, less than three miles from PCC. Associate Minister Don Ashburn, in the notice to PCC members announcing Steve Schibsted's selection, summed up well some of Steve's qualities which will make him an ideal Transitional Minister: "I know that his gifts of intelligence, creativity, empathy and a great sense of humor will be a great asset for [PCC]."

I encourage readers who are interested in PCC's current activities to connect with PCC online at PiedmontChurch.org under 'watch,' and on YouTube by searching Piedmont Community Church.

Thank you for your interest in this important local institution.

—Eric Behrens

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I never questioned the integrity of an umpire. Their eyesight, yes."

-Leo Durocher

1905-1991

Major League baseball player, manager

Letters to the Editor

Cooper an ideal fit for school board

Editor:

I can think of nobody more qualified for Piedmont's School Board than Hilary Cooper. I have known Hilary for 12 years and throughout those years she has been a tireless advocate, volunteer, organizer and champion for Piedmont schools. Hilary's list of school-related volunteer positions is too long to list here so I will emphasize only a few on which I worked directly with her.

In 2016 I was Co-Chair of the "Yes on Measure H1" campaign, the successful facilities bond measure which is responsible for our high school's new STEAM building. At that time Hilary was the president of PHS parent club. During the H1 campaign we leaned on Hilary heavily. Because Hilary has held so many volunteer positions throughout the district, she had the unique ability to guide us through the complex web of community stakeholders, district administrators, parent clubs and parent concerns. Hilary worked as hard for the campaign as if she herself were the chairperson. It amazed me because Hilary already had a full plate with her own exhaustive volunteer responsibilities.

Hilary gets things done, which is no doubt why three years later in 2019 she was tapped to Co-Chair the "Yes On Measures G&H" campaign. As the volunteer coordinator for that campaign, I took instruction directly from Hilary. During the campaign I saw the strength of Hilary's communication skills. I was blown away by her ability to generate enthusiasm at all levels of the campaign. The passage of Measures G&H is owed in no small part to Hilary's leadership, hard work and her combined knowledge of our community and our school district.

I think that that dual knowledge is critical for a School Board member.

Working closely with Hilary on both bond measures, I

saw firsthand how passionate she is about our students and our schools. Hilary's depth and breadth of knowledge about our community and our district is exactly what our School Board needs during this incredibly challenging time. I want Hilary's voice on the School Board because she knows the district from so many different vantage points: as a parent, volunteer, teacher and community member. I believe she will add an invaluable perspective and understanding of the issues and will find the best solutions to our most pressing problems.

I know that Hilary has what it takes to help navigate through this unprecedented pandemic and ensure that our schools are making the best possible decisions on behalf of our children.

I urge you to join me in voting for Hilary Cooper for School Board.

-Chad Olcott

Cory Smegal a strong, well-informed voice on School Board

Editor:

I am writing in support of the re-election of Cory Smegal to the Piedmont Board of Education. It has been my pleasure to get to know her personally and an honor to work alongside her on the school board. Cory is a strong and well-informed voice on the board. The care and education of our students are always at the core of her decision making.

Cory takes her role as board member seriously; she does her homework, delves into issues, and asks hard questions to obtain a clear picture before making decisions. She uses her strong financial background to examine the district budget thoroughly.

Cory listens to constituents – parents, students, and community members alike – and district staff, and is an active voice for their concerns and suggestions.

Cory knows our school system thoroughly and is well attuned to the perspective of parents having been heavily involved in our schools since her two children were in elementary school, and with her youngest now a senior in high school.

She sees the unique opportunities of our small school district and encourages district leadership to think outside of the box when tackling the myriad issues presented by COVID-19 to meet the needs of our students' mental and physical health, as well as their educational growth.

Cory is an advocate for public education including and beyond Piedmont. She has made connections with school board members across the East Bay through her involvement with the California School Board Association (CSBA), as well as with educators in neighboring districts, and often checks in with them to solicit and share ideas. Shortly before the pandemic hit, Cory organized, along with APT, student, and administrative leaders, an energetic and well-attended "Fund Ed Now" rally held at the Community Center to send a strong message from Piedmont to Sacramento in support of school funding (Vote Yes on Prop 15).

Please join me in re-electing Cory Smegal for the Piedmont Board of Education in November!

-Megan Pillsbury
Piedmont School Board member

Thigpen – Expanding Piedmont's reach to be more inclusive

Editor:

I am supporting Veronica Anderson Thigpen for Piedmont School Board. I first met Veronica at Piedmont's MLK Day Celebration in 2019, which she helped organize. Since then, I've gotten to know her even better through her work as Co-Chair of the Piedmont Appreciating Diversity Committee.

In all my interactions with Veronica, I've been impressed both by her passion for social justice and equity and by her thoughtfulness, practical

instincts and willingness to listen. With her deep understanding of education policy, honed through her work as a journalist and an educational adviser, she has the expertise needed to help the School Board make the best decisions for our kids.

As an African American woman who has been committed throughout her career to fighting for social justice and inclusion, she would also bring a fresh perspective to the PUSD board on a wide range of critical issues. And as a collaborative, can-do leader, she would help PUSD translate good principles into productive, concrete actions.

We're living in a time of unprecedented challenges but also unprecedented opportunity – opportunity to build a society that is more just, equitable and sustainable. Veronica is someone who can help us meet that challenge by taking the amazing foundation we've built in Piedmont and expanding its reach to make our city a more welcoming and inclusive place. If you share that aspiration for Piedmont's future, I hope you'll join me in supporting Veronica for School Board.

-Sachin Adarkar

Jason Kelley is right for School Board

Editor:

Jason Kelley's engagement with our schools is and has been intense, through his volunteer activities and his daughters.

On the school board, Jason would be committed to hearing all groups, including parents, teachers and, with respect to Covid-19, health experts, to inform school board decisions. Jason will work to carefully balance the views and interests of all parties to arrive at school re-opening decisions. Beyond Covid-19, Jason balances all views in reaching decisions.

Jason's intellect, deep commitment, calm demeanor, reasonable nature, hard work and

consideration of all points of view together are tremendous assets for our community.

Jason, as LGBTQ and with two daughters of color, would bring an important and timely point of view to the school board.

Jason is the right candidate for this time.

-Brett Byers

Piedmont mom in support of Veronica Thigpen

Editor:

When I moved to Piedmont a few years ago, our family made a commitment to plant our roots here because of the schools. While I had lived in Oakland and San Francisco for years, I wasn't as familiar with Piedmont. Would we fit in? Would my kids fit in?

Over time, I've thankfully met people like Veronica Anderson Thigpen. As I've gotten to know Veronica, I've gotten to know her warmth, leadership, smarts, and her ability to make everyone feel at home. We need her to represent our community and schools not only because she is one of the most well-qualified of the candidates running, but also because she'd be a voice for all students -- those who have been here for generations, as well as those just beginning to find their place.

Veronica will bring so much to the school board. She advises school systems and education nonprofits. She is a trained facilitator. She is an award-winning journalist well-researched in education policies. She's a PUSD mom. And she has been a committed community leader in every community she's lived, including Piedmont. She is someone who respects Piedmont's history while offering fresh eyes on the ways that we can build bridges in this tumultuous time.

Please join me and vote for Veronica Thigpen for PUSD School Board.

-Diana Lee

See Candidate Letters on [page 29](#)

Piedmont Post at your door and online

The *Piedmont Post* remains available online to all subscribers, no matter where they live. To have access to the online *Post*, type piedmontpost.org for a Google search. The entire edition is online. You must log in and use your password. Then readers may scroll from top to bottom as if reading the printed version from left to right.

The Post has returned to print and is delivering the paper weekly to households throughout the city each Wednesday. For inquiries, call the *Piedmont Post* at 510-652-2051.



Subscribe!

You may now subscribe online at: piedmontpost.org/subscribe

- Founder's Circle • over \$500
- Publisher's Circle • \$250-\$499
- Press Club • \$150 - \$249
- Newsroom • \$75
- Mailed Subscription • \$125 Per Year

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Don't miss an issue of the paper of Piedmont, by Piedmont, for Piedmont. Subscribe to the Post and we'll deliver it to your doorstep every Wednesday.

Please check if you do not wish your name published as an underwriter

PIEDMONT POST 1139 Oakland Avenue • Tel. 922-8711 • news@piedmontpost.org



LOCAL ITEMS

OPINION

School board wavers before applying for waiver

By Hari Titan, Ph.D.

On September 24, Piedmont's school board authorized Superintendent Booker to begin the process of applying for a waiver for elementary schools to reopen with a hybrid learning model, as laid out by the Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD).

The board's vote was split 3-2 after Board president Amal Smith insisted on all five members voting. Voting No were Andrea Swenson and Megan Pillsbury.

Supt. Booker initially recommended against going for this waiver. He stated that based on his conversations with other school districts, many initially indicated interest, but none had applied for a waiver citing concerns over negotiations with labor, meeting requirements for student cohorts, and that COVID testing of staff is a big issue. Booker said our AM/PM student cohorts should qualify.

But Booker said that applying for a waiver would take resources away from work getting special education students back on campus. He said the teachers' union agreed to an assessment for special education students, but more work is needed for a return to classroom instruction.

According to Booker collective bargaining with the teach-

ers' union would get these kids back into the classroom faster than waiting for the waiver to be approved by the county.

Later in the meeting, Booker gave an indication of how difficult negotiations had been around classroom instruction. One hour and 42 minutes into the meeting, Booker said that ATP president Gabe Kessler had publicly stated, "If it is not safe for all, it is not safe for some." This statement seems contradictory. The teachers' union already agreed to parental choice for 100% distance learning. The AM/PM hybrid model splits the classroom into two study groups because it was deemed not safe for all students to be in the classroom. APT has also used CDC criteria to define teachers at increased risk of hospitalization, the outcome we have been trying to avoid by "flattening the curve". Does the school community need a "safety summit"?

Earlier that evening, Kessler explained he was having difficulty explaining to parents why school district negotiations with APT have been ongoing for nearly six months. APT had not endorsed any board candidate in Piedmont prior to 2018. In 2018 APT endorsed Amal Smith and Megan Pillsbury. This year APT endorsed Jason Kelley and Veronica Thigpen.

Sheltering in place?

Where in the World are You?

For 22 years, Piedmont residents have made sure their travels are well documented, with photos of family members reading the *Piedmont Post* in far-off places throughout the world, and some nearby.

The *Post* invites families to send us photos still on your camera or in a scrapbook for publication in the Where in the World Are We on the back page of the paper.

Otherwise we are left to ask, "Where in the World Are They?"

Send photos as jpg. files to: news@piedmontpost.org, and be sure to include a brief description of the location where the photo was taken.

ADVERTISE IN THE POST



September 30
– October 4

Wednesday - Sunday,
September 30 – October 4

6 a.m.
Sept. 16 Recreation
Commission meeting

8 a.m.
Sept. 21 City Council
meeting

12 p.m.
Sept. 14 Planning
Commission meeting

6 p.m.
Sept. 23 School Board
meeting

*Due to the COVID 19
emergency, live meetings
are being held virtually
and NOT at City Hall.
Please see the meeting
agenda on how to view and
participate in the meetings
via internet, telephone,
and other media.*

*For more information
on future programming,
call KCOM at City Hall at
510-420-3083.*



By Jay Russell

Question: Have you or anyone you know been affected by wildfires? Do you have any thoughts on preparedness?

Asked on September 17.



CHRISTIAN HARTSOCK,
Blair Ave.

Abandon the fire suppression model, remove dry kindling from the forest floors, increase spatial extents for ecosystemic wildfires and prescribed burns and remove disinformation narratives that enable knee-jerk "solutions."



JOE BUTY,
Warfield Ave.

Fire suppression is not the answer. Controlled burns is the only way forward.



MAX MOY-BORGEN,
Oakmont Ave.

Several friends evacuated their homes in the past few months from Fairfield and Vacaville. We need to bring back the Native American practice of annual controlled burns that clear out underbrush and encourage new plant growth.



MAX GARDNER,
Bonita Ave.

More controlled burns in the off season to prevent bigger outbreaks, and better landscape management.


The Professional Tree Care Company
SERVING PIEDMONT SINCE 1978

Our services cover all aspects of tree care and removal. We have a 100% recycle policy for all materials generated by our activities. Our certified arborists are licensed and insured.
www.professionaltreecare.com

510/549-3954
or 888/335-TREE

The Question Man asks a prescient question each week at an unannounced location.


WEST COAST ARTS
*WE MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION
WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH*
Guaranteed Best Prices, Fast Service, Quality Work

For All Your Printing Needs:
Booklets • Letterheads • Envelopes
Brochures • NCR Forms • Newsletters
Wedding Invitations • Legal Forms

We Offer Digital, Offset and Direct Image Printing
Call for Quotes ... Special discount for non-profit organizations

465-3699 • 1100 Portal Ave., Oakland • Fax 465-5453


open every day
8:30 am – 3 pm
www.jmillerflowers.com
FLOWERS AND GIFTS
Celebrating 50 Blooming Years
Daily delivery throughout the Bay Area...
Piedmont, and Worldwide.

*Welcome to Fall! Sunflowers, Autumn Wreaths
Roses, Dahlias, Custom Bouquets
Succulents and Orchids...FREE DELIVERY.*
4416 PIEDMONT AVE • 510 658 0613
Valerie Lee Ow & Robbin H. Lee, PHS alums

LWV election forum on October 8

Discussion with city, school candidates

By Jay Russell

Candidates for Piedmont's School Board and City Council will participate in a Candidate Election Forum presented by the League of Women Voters on Thursday evening, October 8, starting at 7:00 p.m. The forum will be broadcast live on KCOM, Channel 27, and streamed through the LWV's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/channel/UC3v60XGmr13V_9WaYj6qUJg).

Each candidate will be given two minutes to present an opening statement, followed by a question and answer session. Candidates will have one minute to answer each question. Each candidate can finish with a one-minute closing statement.

Residents can submit questions in advance to the League's email address (lwvpiedmont@gmail.com) to be asked in the forum. These will be screened by a team from the League to ensure a range of topics and issues. Questions for the candidates may also be submitted to the YouTube livestream comments section.

City Council candidates Jen Cavenaugh, Connie Herrick, Conna McCarthy and Nancy Bostrom will give their statements and answer questions in the first half of the forum.

School Board candidates Hilary Cooper, Jason Kelley, Cory Smegal, Veronica Anderson Thigpen and Hari Titan will follow the city council candidates.

All candidates have been invited. Candidates who are not able to participate may submit a brief statement to be read by the moderator.



The League of Women Voters' Nancy Beninati, the Voter Services Chair, will be the moderator of Candidate Election Forum on October 8.

The forum will be moderated by LWV Voter Services Chair Nancy Beninati.

"Historically, the LWV Piedmont candidate forums have been well attended, and provide an opportunity for residents of Piedmont to ask the candidates questions about the issues that are most important to the community. This year will be no different, despite the format shift from in-person Q&A to a virtual format. In fact, we hope to reach a wider range of residents because of the convenience of watching at home," said Beninati.

The forum will not include a discussion about the two ballot measures, Measures UU (\$19 million pool bond) and Measure TT (increase in real estate transfer tax).

The League will publish a Pros & Cons for the Piedmont ballot measures on their website: www.lwvpiedmont.org/content.aspx?sl=1585128683.

Democracy is not a spectator sport!

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The League

- provides voter services and registration
- educates kids about the election process
- influences public policy through education and advocacy



JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PIEDMONT

90 years ago it was just for women. Today it's for everyone.

For information, call Linda McClain at 653-4255 or go to www.lwvpiedmont.org

KNOW THE ISSUES. BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION.

Clayton/Piedmont 2020 Census Challenge
LAST CHANCE TO BE COUNTED!
September 30
my2020census.gov

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States®
Census
2020

City department heads provide own COVID updates

By Allyson Aleksey

At a September 21 City Council meeting, City Administrator Sara Lillevand invited department heads to provide updates on the impacts of COVID-19 to their respective departments.

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Fire Chief Bret Black, and Recreation Director Chelle Putzer described how the current health crisis has impacted their work and their staffs.

Police Department

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers discussed how Halloween may look different this year in light of the novel coronavirus and social-distancing guidelines.

"We need to really understand that the traditional ways in which the holiday is celebrated do not allow individuals to minimize contact with non-household members," Bowers said.

Based upon current guidelines from the Alameda County Public Health Department, Halloween gatherings, parties or events with non-household members are not permitted, even if conducted outdoors. Carnivals, festivals, haunted houses and live entertainment cannot take place in Piedmont this year.

"Door-to-door trick or treating is not recommended, because it can be hard to maintain social distancing at porches or outdoors," Bowers said.

The reality of sharing and passing out candy is risky, he added.

Additionally, "Trunk-or-treating," an event hosted by the Piedmont Police Department for the past several years, will not take place this year.

The department is exploring alternatives, including possible remote costume parties or holiday celebrations via Zoom.

The department continues to engage in mask enforcement.

"Piedmont has had an ongoing effort to increase messaging to the public [on wearing masks]" Bowers said. Park Ambassadors are tasked with reminding people spending time in the city's public parks to wear masks and continue to distance from others. Fewer calls are being received by the police department advising that people are in public without masks, indicating an improvement in public understanding.

Officers are asked to remind those who do not wear them of the state-wide mandate, rather than hand out tickets.

"We always seek to educate residents first," Bowers said.

Fire Department

Lillevand said that Black, in addition to responding to a catastrophic wildfire season, has shouldered much of the city's COVID-19 response. Black explained that his department helps to facilitate local organizations and groups in complying with health orders, and file appropriate required documents before events are approved.

"About once a week we get a new proposal," Black said.

The fire department is also tasked with participating in county-wide public health briefings. To date, there have been approximately 100 briefings since shelter-in-place restrictions were mandated on March 16, Black explained.

The county has facilitated more than 508,000 COVID tests, averaging about 4,000 tests per day. Cities in Alameda County must be prepared to distribute a medication or vaccine if need be. Piedmont must be prepared to engage as a point of dispensing (POD). The Center for Disease Control defines a "POD" site as a "federally instituted best practice model designed to provide medications, vaccines, or medical supplies to a large community of healthy people during a health emergency." This is not unique to COVID-19; the models used to dispense emergency mass prophylaxis will be dependent on the nature of the incident and the size of the population.

Alameda County is currently collaborating with all cities and agencies within the county to create an activation of the POD model for distribution of the flu vaccine this Fall.

"Right now, we are only in conceptual plans, but we are preparing for community access to an influenza vaccine here in Piedmont. In the next few weeks those plans will be vetted out," Black explained.

Black also provided information on how the Piedmont fire

See COVID Updates on page 30



**The best quality
in all departments**

**Serving our community
for 118 years**

CURRENT STORE HOURS

Monday through Saturday – 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Sunday – 9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Senior Hour Every Day – 9:00 am to 10:00 am including Sunday

Piedmont Avenue • Oakland, California 94611 • 510-653-8181

Open Seven Days • Free Parking

SCHOOLS

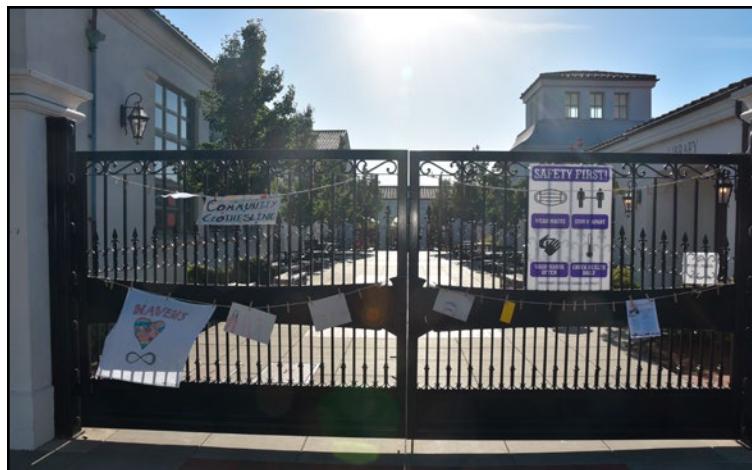
School Board to continue with waiver for in-person TK-5 classes

By Jay Russell

With a narrow 3-2 vote on September 23, the Piedmont School Board agreed to file a waiver with the county that could eventually allow TK-5th grade students back in school. The importance of the waiver to get the youngest learners to a form of in-person or hybrid learning was heavily debated considering Alameda County moved into the red tier of COVID restrictions on Tuesday, Sep. 22 and the waiver may not be necessary.

The waiver would allow for in-person learning even if Alameda County were to slip back into the purple tier – the most restrictive. The application is due by October 2 but the results of the waiver will not be known until around November 6. In the Bay Area, Alameda County has the longest turnover time – five weeks – to provide results of the requests for waivers. Other counties are providing decisions within 10-14 days.

At this juncture, the most direct and easiest path to get all students back in school, not just elementary school, would be for Alameda County to stay in the red tier for two weeks. The red tier requires 4-7 daily new COVID cases per 100,000 residents and 5-8 percent positivity



Piedmont Schools have been closed since March 16. The School Board has approved the submission of a waiver to Alameda County's Public Health Officer for TK-5 grade students to return in-person.

rates on tests. Alameda County's numbers actually dipped into the orange tier on Sep. 21 with a 3.5 daily cases per 100,000 and a 2.5 percent positivity rate, based upon seven-day averages.

Opening schools through this method is not as simple as passing the metrics for new case rates and case positivity, however. Alameda County's Public Health Officer must approve school districts to open and give criteria for a phased reopening plan. Then the Piedmont Board of Education must decide if it is ready to open.

The criteria have not been released for Alameda County schools to reopen. Despite being

eligible by the state, no county-wide adjustments to COVID restrictions have been made (including limited capacity for indoor dining, religious institutions, museums and gyms). Decisions on changes are not anticipated until October 6.

The uncertainty of what will be required for reopening and when that will take place persuaded some board members to pursue the K-5 waiver.

"Applying for a waiver, to me, gives us more flexibility. It just gives us another option to make a decision for our community, teachers and students," said

See TK-5 Waiver on page 29

Bargaining agreement with teachers a big step toward in-person learning

By Jay Russell

A tentative agreement between the Association of Piedmont Teachers (APT, the teachers' union) and Piedmont School District was reached in the September 9 school board meeting. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlined the working conditions for in-person/ hybrid learning during COVID-19. A new agreement must be made anytime there is a change in the working conditions.

The agreement primarily focuses on health and safety protocols. The teachers and the district have been working for months to come to an agreement in order to finally establish the basis for bringing kids back to school.

"What made it so challenging is the CDC guidance would change in the midst of negotiation. That made it challenging to keep up with all the changes and new information that was coming forward from different state agencies," said Superintendent Randy Booker.

For example, in the beginning of negotiations it was thought that contaminated surfaces were major contributors to virus transmission. Now, cleaning surfaces are less of a concern but increasing ventilation is very important. Thus, a new item in the MOU was a requirement for MERV-13 air filters in every classroom and workspace, which are now installed.

The agreement requires all staff and students to wear masks

at school at all times except when eating or drinking. Temperatures need to be taken every morning at home and a COVID screening survey must be filled out before attending school.

Teachers are given the right to dismiss students from class, "If students are not wearing masks or maintaining social distancing or are out of compliance with any COVID-related county health recommendations," the MOU states.

The school district will ensure that movement through buildings is only in one direction. All schools will have a clinic and additional nurses will be hired.

The size of cohorts cannot exceed 15 students and will be determined by the size of the classroom. Cohorts will have fixed membership and stay together for all courses and activities, including lunch and recess. Cohorts are already in place in elementary school with distance learning by splitting classes into a.m. and p.m. groups.

The school district will provide plexiglass screens, face shields, or masks at the request of teachers. Masks have been procured and will be made available for students as well.

The bell schedule will remain the same from distance learning, and all instruction on Mondays will be online only.

Exposure to someone with COVID-19 requires a 14-day quarantine and a return to distance learning. Quarantined teachers will provide distance

learning instruction.

An unpaid administrative leave can be requested if a teacher is unable to return to in-person instruction because either they or someone in their household for whom they are a primary caregiver is at increased risk from COVID-19. Risk elements include being over 65 or having a BMI over 30.

"Upon return from leave, every attempt will be made to restore the previous position," the MOU states.

This agreement does not take effect in the case of a TK-5 waiver, only if all teachers and students are allowed back. The teachers have consistently said if it's not safe for some, it's not safe for all.

If Alameda County can remain in the Red Tier for two weeks – until October 6 – schools would be on track to reopen. In that event, this agreement would be activated.

The County Health Officer would need to give approval for schools to open and lay out conditions to be met for a phased reopening.

"I am pleased to bring this forward to the board," Booker said, as he thanked all the negotiation members including APT President Gabe Kessler.

For the full text of the teachers' bargaining memorandum, click on: <https://agendaonline.net/public/Meeting/Attachments/DisplayAttachment.aspx?AttachmentID=1224100&IsArchive=0>

Saturday marks special day for PHS seniors

A Senior Spirit Kick-Off was held last Saturday, September 26, with a total of 130 seniors participating in a drive-through to congratulate, support and welcome the class of 2021.

The event was designed with orange and purple decorations – senior class colors – created by student leaders and purchased by the parents. The week before the event

Senior Class president Audrey Edel made posters, sent emails, and reminded her classmates through social media.

On Saturday, students drove through the parking lot above the Piedmont Community Center where they were cheered on, had their names entered into a raffle, and had their cars decorated with slogans such as "Go 2021" "Go Seniors" as well as various hearts and stars.

In tandem with ASB members, the parents also provided a giveaway, which included an orange swag bag filled with; personalized hand sanitizer, masks, car magnets, beads and a gift card.



ADVERTISE IN THE POST

Mindful Fidgets™

The Wearable Fidget

Designed by PUSD Occupational Therapist, Kim Bonacum



Put it on in the morning. Wear it all day.
It's there when you need it.

Available online at www.mindfulfidgets.com or at our Mulberry's pop-up Saturday, October 3rd!

Ed. Foundation donates \$3 million from last year

The Piedmont Education Foundation presented the Piedmont School District with a check for \$3,015,704 at the school board meeting on September 23. The funds were raised during the 2019-20 Giving Campaign, the most successful to date. It repre-

sented a 14% increase from the previous year, and included donations from 1,300 households, also a record.

This year's campaign began one week ago and will continue to January. For more information, see www.piedmontedfoundation.org.



Heather Frank, PEF Executive Director and The Giving Campaign 2019-2020 Co-Chairs Amelie Kappes, Emily Harrold, and Nicki Gilbert

Piedmont Education Foundation Executive Director Heather Frank (left) with Giving Campaign Co-Chairs Amelie Kappes, Emily Harrold and Nicki Gilbert.



APT President Gabe Kessler, president of the Piedmont Teachers' Association (left) with Superintendent Randy Booker.

Need plans for your kids for Halloween?

Senior Girl Scout Troop 31765 is hosting a Halloween Zoom Party for your kids. We will have a series of interactive games, hands-on activities, a costume contest with prizes – and of course some treats.

Day & Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm on Halloween

Cost: \$25 per child

Ages: 4-13 (we will be dividing into age groups if we have enough participants)

Participation will be limited to the first 100 who sign up. The deadline to register is Saturday, October 24.

Registration: Click on <https://forms.gle/nfQtX8U9LhAXbwgb7>, and fill out the registration form.

For more information contact Buffy Yeh at yeh4mom@yahoo.com.



CollegePrep
A private high school in Oakland

Tucked into a glen in the Rockridge neighborhood of Oakland, College Prep's informal and welcoming campus provides an educational home for a lively and talented community of students in grades 9-12. Guided by inspiring teachers and mentors, they create a vibrant community that is rooted in shared values of kindness, respect, and a willingness to learn from the perspectives of others. We invite you to visit us and experience College Prep first-hand.

The Giving Campaign Education Foundation: Popsicles, Zoom Parties at launch of annual campaign



Photo by Jane Violich

Jane and George Saunders and Ben Kappes prepare to hand out popsicles to celebrate the launch of Piedmont Education Foundation's annual Giving Campaign on September 22.

On Tuesday, September 22, Piedmont Education Foundation kicked off its annual Giving Campaign, a major fundraising effort benefitting Piedmont schools, delighting kids and parents by handing out popsicles. The mobile popsicle party took place at the Exedra in the center of town.

Campaign Chairs Amelie Kappes, Colleen Allan, and Teebie Saunders and their kids had a blast decorating a truck and distributing popsicles and ice cream.

"It was awesome to see how excited everyone was to see us

and enjoy a cold popsicle on a hot day," exclaimed Ben Kappes.

Later that day the foundation hosted nearly 50 families who are new to Piedmont schools at an online celebration. Goody bags of beer and snacks, donated by Mulberry's Market, were delivered to all participating families. Guests heard informative anecdotes from Nicki Gilbert, Wildwood parent Kat Di Piazza, Superintendent Randall Booker, and several others. In between speakers, parents found themselves in virtual breakout rooms and had a few minutes to meet each other.

"In other years we have been able to invite new families to an event so that they can get to know their fellow parents," said Piedmont Education Foundation Executive Director. "Chatting informally is such an important part of developing the community here. We wanted to do our best to provide that experience."

The Giving Campaign is the largest annual community fundraiser for Piedmont schools. Funds raised help meet the school district's goal of providing each child with an exceptional education. To learn more visit PiedmontEdFoundation.org.



**EDUCATION IS CHANGING.
LET'S REACH FOR BETTER TOGETHER.**

👉 PROVEN TRACK RECORD

of working hard for the Piedmont schools for the past 11 years

👉 COLLABORATIVE, INCLUSIVE LEADER

who advocates for all students

👉 CREATIVE, ACTIONABLE IDEAS

about how we can reach for better for our schools



HilaryforSchoolBoard.com

PAID FOR BY HILARY COOPER FOR PIEDMONT SCHOOL BOARD 2020, 17 SELBORNE DRIVE, PIEDMONT, CA 94611

Election Day is November 3. Please vote early!

Fidgets and fidgeting – tools to support distance learning

By Kimberly Bonacum, MS

We all fidget at one time or another throughout the day for a variety of reasons. Maybe you tap a pencil or click a pen when concentrating, or jingle change to calm yourself when anxious. Do you fiddle with a paperclip when listening to a lecture or doodle during a meeting? Perhaps you twirl your hair just because you like the sensation.

Everybody fidgets, especially students. Over the years, I have seen firsthand that providing the *right* fidget to a student can positively influence success and participation in the classroom. Fidgeting can actually support attention, emotional and/or sensory regulation.

During distance learning, the need to fidget is heightened for students. Contributing factors include extended screen time with the absence of naturally embedded movement that in-person learning provides. For example, with in-person learning, students move from one workstation or class to another or engage with a variety of manipulatives and hands-on experiences throughout the day.

As a result, having the right fidget tool readily available has never been more needed. In the absence of this, younger students may initiate fidgeting with a large toy that disrupts their

attention and that of classmates. Older students may “fidget” by opening new tabs or fidget with their phone, missing instructional time.

In order for fidgets to be effective “tools” for learning they must be small and quiet, allowing discreet use. They are *mindful* of the learning environment by respecting those around them. For distance learning, this easily translates as keeping fidgets in your lap and not visible to the screen.

Fidgets are not a “one size fits all,” but rather chosen based on individual sensory preferences. I have found the following examples of hand-held, wearable and portable fidgets most effective and also accepted by classroom teachers. They are “small, quiet and mindful of others.”

Handheld fidgets:

- Isoflex Stress Ball (sand filled so does not bounce or roll away)
- Flippy Chain Fidget
- Marble Mesh Finger Fidget
- Tangle Jr.

Wearable Fidgets:

- Plastic Coil Bracelets
- Mindful Fidget Star Wristband

Portable Fidgets

- Pencil or pen (roll between fingertips and great for fine motor coordination too!)
- Finger exercises (touch thumb to each fingertip)
- Doodle



An example of a Mindful Fidget,

motor coordination too!)

- Finger exercises (touch thumb to each fingertip)
- Doodle

Finally, be certain to review fidget rules and expectations. Fidgets are tools for learning that are designed to support attention and engagement to the task at hand. They are always used discreetly, being mindful of others.

Kimberly Bonacum is an occupational therapist for Piedmont Unified School District and owner of Mindful Fidgets, LLC. She can be reached at mindfulfidgets@gmail.com. For more information visit her website www.mindfulfidgets.com or stop by her pop-up at Mulberry's Market on Saturday, October 3rd.

John Stewart honored by Piedmont Scouts



Silver Beaver Recipients 2010s



- 2010 - Terri Ashton
- 2011 - G. Richard Eigenbrode
- 2012 - Ramon Rodriguez
- 2013 - Rich Harms
- 2014 - Randy Litteneker
- 2015 - Gregory Pike
- 2016 - Roger Ellassen
- 2017 - Anne-Marie Lamarche
- 2018 - Rick Clark
- 2019 - Rob James

On Wednesday evening, September 16, a total of 65 members of the community and the Piedmont Council Board honored veteran Scouter and Scout leader, John Stewart, with a presentation of the

prestigious Silver Beaver Award.

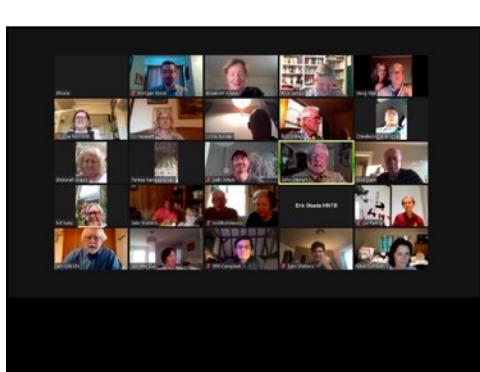
The award was delivered to him in person by his wife Anne in the safety of his own home, but the event was shared and enjoyed by everyone on Zoom.

The Silver Beaver is the highest honor that a Council can make locally. It is a national recognition presented for long-term outstanding service to youth within a local Council.



Silver Beaver Award Presentation

JOHN STEWART



Silver Beaver Award Presentation

JOHN STEWART



READ IT IN THE POST

FUN4KIDS

Event Calendar

By Jay Russell

Montclair Swim Club

Swimming- now open

The Montclair Swim Club reopened at the start of September for swimmers. The club is a private membership swim and health club in Montclair on Thornhill Drive. With the Piedmont pool closed, Montclair Swim Club may offer the aquatic exercise your kids may be missing. Family and single membership are available. Check out the historic pool, opened in 1927, which used to be called the Forest Pool, with icy cold waters coming from the streams in the Oakland hills. It was renovated this year. The club is open seven days a week, with long hours.

Lake Chabot Boat Rental

Boating and Fishing

Lake Chabot's boat rental service is a well-kept secret. Take a visit for a fun day on the water in any sort of vessel. Try your hand at boating while getting great exercise on row boats, kayaks (single and double), or pedal boats. Prefer a more leisurely time on the water? Electric motorboats are also available in different sizes, including a four-person, 16-foot boat with a bimini top, electric pontoon patio boats and a 20 person-max tour boat. For anglers, there's a bait shop on the dock.

The Oakland Zoo

Outdoor Zoo- Now Open

A visit to the Oakland Zoo will bring a day full of fun and amazement. Safety protocols are second nature now, universal mask-wearing and a limited capacity make visits safe. It's a great chance to have a relaxing visit to the zoo without the huge crowds. Make sure to buy tickets in advance and arrive at your specified time. If you haven't visited in a while, check out the California Trail which was added in 2018. The trail doubled the zoo's space and provides a habitat for the grey wolf, American Bison and Grizzly Bear.

More Info:

Montclair Swim Club

1901 Woodhaven Way, Oakland (510) 339-2500

www.montclairswimandhealthclub.com/

Lake Chabot Boat Rental

17936 Lake Chabot Rd. Castro Valley, (510) 247-2526

www.lakechabotrecreation.com

Oakland Zoo

9777 Golf Links Road, Oakland (510) 632-9525

www.oaklandzoo.org

ADVERTISE IN THE POST

SEND THE PERFECT GIFT WITH
FRENCHSOAPDEPOT.COM

WE DELIVER AUTHENTIC FRENCH
GOODS TO YOUR DOORSTEP

FRENCH SOAP DEPOT

— AUTHENTIC FRENCH GOODS —



STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE – 2020

September 30 - October 11

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.
30	Oct. 1	2	3	4
No street sweeping this week.				
7	8	9	10	11
1-Odd	2-O	3-O	4-O	5-O

E = Even Street Numbers

Streets, by Zones — *Indicates streets where even & odd numbered sides of the street are both swept.

ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4	ZONE 5
Ashmount	Arroyo	Arbor	*Abbott Way	Annerley
*Cavanagh	Bonita	*Artuna	Alta	Boulevard Way
Crest	(North of Park Way)	Blair	Bell	Caperton
Crocker	Cambridge	(below Highland)	Belle Vue	Crocker
(South of LaSalle)	(West of Grand)	Bonita	Blair	(North of LaSalle)
*Croydon Circle	Cambridge	(South of Park Way)	(above Highland)	Crofton
Estates	(East of Grand Ave.)	Cambridge	*Blair Pl.	Farragut
Florada	EVEN ONLY)	(East of Grand,	Calvert Ct.	Guilford
Glen Alpine	ODD ONLY)	ODD ONLY)	Craig	Hampton
Hampton	Grand	Carmel	Dormidera	(West of Sea View)
(East of Sea View)	(Between Wildwood	Dale	Dudley	Harvard
Hunleigh	and Cambridge	Dracena	*Dudley Ct.	Hazel
Indian	ODD ONLY)	El Cerrito	*Echo Lane	Highland
*Indian Gulch	Grand	Fairview	Hagar	(South of Mountain)
Inverleith Terr.	(Between Cambridge	Grand	Hardwick	King
La Salle	& Rose)	(between Wildwood &	*Langdon Ct.	Lakeview
*La Salle Ct.	Greenbank	Cambridge,	Littlewood	Lincoln
Lafayette	(West of Grand)	EVEN ONLY)	Maxwelton	Mountain
Lexford	Holly Pl.	Greenbank	Mesa	(East of Sharon)
*Marlborough Ct.	Howard	(East of Grand)	Monte	Oak
Muir	Kingston	Highland	Moraga	Oakmont
*Sandringham Pl.	Lake	(North of Mountain)	(East of Highland)	Palm
Sandringham Rd.	Linda	Highland Way	Mountain	*Park Lane
Sea View	Lorita	Hillside	(West of Sharon)	Park View
(Between LaSalle & Crocker)	Lower Grand	Hillside Ct.	*Nellie	(between #241 & Winsor)
Selborne	Manor	Jerome	Oakland	*Piedmont Ct.
Somerset	Monticello	*Keeler Ct.	(between Highland & Scenic)	Poplar Way
Sotelo	Moraga	*Larmer Ct.	Pacific	Portsmouth
*St James Cir.	Nace	Latham St.	Pala	Prospect
St James Dr.	Oakland	*MacKinnon Pl.	Park Way	Ranleigh
*St James Pl.	(West of Grand)	Magnolia	(between Highland & Pala)	*Requa Pl.
Trestle Glen	Olive	Nova	Scenic	Requa Rd.
Tyson	Park Way	Oakland	Sharon	Richardson
*Valant	(Between Monticello & Bonita)	(between Grand & Highland)	*Sharon Ct.	Sea View
Wildwood Gdns,	*Parkside	Park View	(between Mountain & La Salle)	Sheridan
Wistaria	Ramona	Park Way	Ricardo	Sierra
	Ronada	(between Bonita & Highland)	San Carlos	Wallace
	Rose	Ricardo	Sylvan Way	Warfield
	Sunnyside	San Carlos	Vista	Wildwood
	York	Sylvan Way	Waldo	Winsor

O = Odd Street Numbers

Street sweeping tips for residents

To help Piedmont's Department of Public Works keep the streets free of leaves during the fall and winter months, residents are asked to observe four rules:

1. Do not put branches in the street, even small branches! They damage the street sweeping equipment.
2. Do not sweep debris from your yard into the gutter – sweep only leaves that fall naturally into the street.
3. Sweep leaves into narrow rows outside the flow line of the gutter. Do not put them in piles. The street sweepers cannot pick up piles of leaves effectively.
4. If you want to rake your leaves, you can now add them to your weekly unlimited green waste cart. If you don't have enough room in your cart, call Republic Services (1-800- 320-8077) and request free compostable bags to place with your green cart on garbage day. Do not bag them and then empty the bags on the street on sweeping day.

The Post will publish the weekly street sweeping schedule from now through February, 2021.



PIEDMONT FUNERAL SERVICES
AT MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY

You can now make your cemetery and mortuary arrangements in the same location. From traditional ground burial and services, to cremation and more progressive services, whatever your needs are, we are here to help you. Piedmont Funeral Services is now open to serve the funerary needs of our community.

TEL: 510-658-2588

WWW.PIEDMONTFUNERSLICES.COM

5000 PIEDMONT AVE., OAKLAND, CA (FD#2210)

PPD Blue

EXCERPTS FROM THE PIEDMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT LOG

SEPTEMBER 18 - 25

This Week by the Numbers

- 1 Complaint of loud parties or music
- 2 Stolen vehicles
- 5 Stolen catalytic converters
- 5 Complaints of a gas-powered leaf blowers
- 10 Automatic license plate readers triggered by stolen vehicles or plates

Friday, September 18

6:16 p.m. Artuna Ave. Report of 5 people in Upper Dracena Park with furniture; appear to be drinking.

8:16 p.m. Artuna Ave. Report of a group in Lower Dracena Park near back wall sitting around candles. Resident concerned about open flame. Officer finds no candles, just flashlights; group disperses.

11:46 p.m. St. James Dr. Complaint of party with loud music and yelling. Officer quiets party down.

11:53 p.m. St. James Dr. **Attempted Auto Theft.** PPD interrupt attempted vehicle theft. Two suspects in a separate vehicle attempted to flee; left at high rates of speed and crashed near Highland and Piedmont Ct. Two suspected cited for auto theft, possession of burglary tools, resisting arrest, evading arrest and possession of stolen property. Suspects cited and release due to COVID jail capacity. A third suspect got away.

11:58 p.m. Sunnyside Ave. Complaint of party with loud music and juveniles. Officer disperses group.

Saturday, September 19

12:00 a.m. Mountain Ave. Report of teens on street being loud. Officer disperses group.

1:12 a.m. Wildwood Ave. **ALPR** triggered by 2014 Hyundai Elantra. Car flees southbound on Grand at high speed. No pursuit.

4:29 a.m. Park Blvd. **ALPR** triggered by 2008 Mazda 6 heading westbound.

8:27 a.m. Winsor Ave. **ALPR** triggered by Honda Civic stolen on Sept. 15 in San Leandro.

11:08 a.m. Blair Ave. Report of 2 juveniles on a scooter; looks dangerous.

6:38 p.m. Wildwood Ave. Report of a man talking to himself and pointing at things. Officers provide him with courtesy ride to Lakeshore Ave.

8:04 p.m. Artuna Ave. Report of group in Upper Dracena Park with open flame. Officer finds no open flame.

Sunday, September 20

5:12 a.m. Winsor Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of stolen catalytic converter. Suspect was in a white truck.

6:38 a.m. Estates Dr. **ALPR** triggered by 2000 Honda Civic heading northbound.

11:33 a.m. Pacific Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Catalytic converter stolen from Toyota Prius.

12:03 p.m. Nace Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Cordless Dewalt drill and tool bag stolen from unlocked Mercedes E350.

9:17 p.m. Sotelo Ave. Report of a buzzing noise coming from neighbors; second night in a row. Unable to determine source.

Monday, September 21

1:25 a.m. La Salle Ave. Report of a buzzing noise coming from neighbor's backyard or pool on Sotelo. Neighbor alerted.

2:02 a.m. Park Blvd. **ALPR** triggered by stolen 2006 Scion.

5:44 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by stolen 2004 Nissan.

8:38 p.m. Oakland Ave. Report of 2 subjects laying in street with loud music from a car.

Tuesday, September 22

5:07 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by stolen 2001 Honda CRV.

9:17 a.m. Wildwood Ave. Resident finds tools in bush in front of house; appears to be burglary tools.

2:38 p.m. Woodland Way. **Residential Burglary.** Report of person in dark van stealing mail.

See PPD Blue on page 30

PICKS OF THE WEEK (2)

- Friday afternoon? Free live concert? How bad could it be?

Friday, September 18

4:18 p.m. Carmel Ave. Complaint of live band playing for 45 minutes. Officer advises band of complaint.

- Beware of the Piedmont woodchucker.

Wednesday, September 23

1:38 p.m. Dracena Ave. Report of a man picking up a piece of wood and throwing it at resident, then walking into Dracena Park.

FLIP by PHIL WITTE



"And here's my wine cellar. It can hold 4,000 bottles, in theory."

PIEDMONT FUNERAL SERVICES
AT MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY

TEL: 510-658-2588

WWW.PIEDMONTFUNERSLICES.COM

5000 PIEDMONT AVE., OAKLAND, CA (FD#2210)

Election Preview – City Council candidates Q&A

By Allyson Aleksey

Part 7 in a series

In advance of the November 3 municipal election, Piedmont City Council candidates were asked two questions:

1) *With about 5 weeks left until the election, are you nervous? excited? confident? Why?*

2) *How do you think a built-out city like Piedmont can create more affordable housing?*

The Post will ask each candidate two questions every week. Responses are listed below.

JEN CAVENAUGH, *Incumbent*

1 – I'm excited about this election because I have a passion for public service and I welcome the opportunity to serve Piedmonters for four more years on the city council.

Campaigning provides a special forum for voters to engage with their elected officials so they can share their concerns and priorities for the future. I welcome voter interaction, though during this election, I really miss the in-person connection.

Right now, my biggest campaign focus is on Measure UU, which is a very important ballot measure for Piedmonters. It's about whether we want to continue to have a local pool facility for Piedmonters to learn to swim, for exercise, relaxation, injury rehabilitation, youth employment, school PE programs includ-

ing adaptive PE, and HS sports teams. Or Not. It's that simple.

The City has run out of cost-effective repairs, and it makes no fiscal sense to spend even more money on a failing pool that no longer meets the needs of our residents. I am optimistic that voters understand what is at stake and will vote Yes on Measure UU to rebuild the pool. Now is the right time.

2 – Pre-pandemic, the Bay Area and most of California was in a housing and homelessness crisis the likes of which we have not previously experienced. The current health crisis has created some housing reshuffling, however many Californians remain vulnerable to losing their homes due to unemployment. Renters are facing mass evictions, and those who are housed are spending unsustainable portions of their monthly paychecks on housing alone. The Piedmont community is a high opportunity area since we offer high quality schools and community services and the city is located close to jobs and public transit. Though we are a small city we can still be a part of the solution.

Piedmont is embarking on a process to reevaluate our plans for providing housing of all types, specifically to meet our Regional Housing Number Allocation that comes from the state. The process will look at lot size minimums, ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) guidelines, multi-family housing, zoning, and many other aspects

of our housing element to identify options for new housing. We already have many examples of alternate housing styles embedded in our community that can serve a template for what works in Piedmont. We will look to creatively provide housing that integrates into our community while maintaining the essence of what makes Piedmont special and without impacting the property values of current homeowners. No small order, but we are up to the task

CONNIE HERRICK

1 – Every Piedmonter should run for office one time. It is an incredible experience, one that is worth the nerves! This election process has given me wonderful opportunities to hear from so many people I otherwise never would have met. Learning about the issues our City faces is exciting and inspiring. And after all the years I've lived here, running for office has given me a renewed appreciation of our City and how well it is run.

So with five weeks left, the predominant emotion for me is gratitude. Many have offered their expertise to educate me and round out my research. I've gotten good advice which keeps me striving to be better. My supporters are kind and continually encourage me. No matter how this election turns out for me, I will have grown as a person and connected with many wonderful people. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

2 – We have to think creatively and innovatively. We need to be open to ideas that may seem foreign and uncomfortable. Changes to our existing building codes and zoning will have to happen. The Alameda County Affordable Housing Bond (Measure A1) allocated \$2.1 million to Piedmont. Those funds can be used to provide incentives to create housing and to help low-income buyers and renters.

ADUs are the easiest to encourage and implement. Changing a large single-family home into a duplex or triplex while keeping the exterior look intact is another option. Our horizontal capacity is strained, but we have plenty of vertical capacity on commercial buildings that wouldn't impact our City's residential areas. Several buildings on Highland Avenue and Grand Avenue are currently one story. These can have 1-2 levels of housing added, creating multi-use structures. We can create affordable housing if we are willing to innovate and change.

CONNA MCCARTHY

1 – I am feeling reasonably confident tempered by a healthy dose of humility. I am running to win. It is my job to earn votes. My campaign reflects my respect for the important role of voters as decision-makers. I spend every day reaching out to voters by means of zoom, text, phone, email, regular mail, flyers, websites, lawn signs, print

media, social media, and candidate forums. I share my personal story, my qualifications, and my 25-year history of volunteer leadership to the City of Piedmont and the Piedmont Unified School District. With five weeks to go, I am proud to publish a growing list of nearly 500 endorsers.

Piedmont is likely to have a voter turnout above 80%. I continue to work every day to reach a plurality of votes cast.

2 – As a nearly built out City, Piedmont is challenged to meet state mandates to develop affordable housing. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) decides how many units of housing, affordable at various income levels, each city must accommodate. For 2007-2014, ABAG set Piedmont's number at 40 units. For 2015-2022, Piedmont's allocation is 60 units with 49 units already completed at the end of 2019. Although there should be room for negotiation, Piedmont's affordable housing goal for the next 8-year period could be 180-600 new units. To date, Piedmont's construction of "affordable" housing units consists primarily of accessory dwelling units (ADUs). Looking at the current rate of ADU applications, it is unlikely Piedmont could meet a mandated requirement for 180-600 new units going forward. It is time to look for creative solutions including multi-unit dwellings that fit in with Piedmont's traditional home designs and small-town charm.

School Board Election – Candidates Q&A

By Allyson Aleksey

Part 7 in a series

In advance of the November 3 municipal election, Piedmont School Board candidates were asked two questions:

1) *With about five weeks left until the election, are you nervous? excited? confident? Why?*

2) *Are you using lawn signs in your campaign? If so, how many are out, and what do you believe is the value of lawn signs in a local campaign?*

The Post will ask each candidate two questions every week. Responses are listed below.

HILARY COOPER

1 – I have really been enjoying the time I have spent campaigning. From phone chats and zoom meetings to studying education policy and guidelines for safety, I feel like these past months have given me a real appreciation of our electoral process and a sense of purpose. I have also gotten to know many amazing individuals in our community during my campaign. 2020 has thrown so many challenges at us. For me, the decision to run for school board felt like a natural fit to help my community. I am very excited for the opportunity to serve our students and I hope I will get that chance if I'm elected in 34 days (but who's counting?)

2 – I am using lawn signs in my campaign and I believe they are an important show of support in a small, connected and well-informed community. Lawn signs have always been part of our political dialogue and they

are even more important now with most of our campaigning happening virtually. They are also a reminder to citizens to vote and participate in our local and national elections. So far, I have placed over 200 lawn signs. Each sign that I place is a vote I have earned, and it is nice to be able to share that with the community at large. I believe that people like to know who their neighbors and friends are supporting, and lawn signs are an excellent means to that end. I would also like to thank the talented Piedmont resident, Kristen Malan, for her beautiful design of my campaign materials.

JASON KELLEY

1 – I'm excited that the election is now just weeks away. In fact, most voters will likely cast their ballots well before election day this year. I'm pleased that there are several well-qualified candidates running for this four-year volunteer position. It is the voters' job now to choose a group of people who will bring a variety of viewpoints, backgrounds, and experiences to the board so that the whole community will be represented. I would encourage voters to look carefully at each candidate's qualifications and experiences and vote for a board that can work together to make sure Piedmont schools meet the changing needs of our students and our whole community.

2 – Lawn signs are a way for residents to participate in the election and show neighbors their support for one or more candidates and ballot issues. As long as the city's sign rules are followed, I think they are great. My campaign has distributed about 100 signs.

CORY SMEGAL, *Incumbent*

1 – I don't think I am nervous, excited or confident about the upcoming election – just busy. Tonight, September 30th, the School Board is having a special meeting to approve the Learning Continuity plan, which provides details on the District's plans for the 2020-21 school year. Next week, there are four forums where Piedmonters can hear from the school board candidates. They are:

Monday 10/5: POPS (Piedmont Supporting Oakland Public Schools) Forum, 5-6pm

Monday 10/5: All-School Parent Club Forum, 6:30-8pm

Tuesday 10/6: PRAISE Forum, 7-8:30pm

Thursday 10/8: Piedmont League of Women Voters Forum, 7-8:30 -- this one will be on KCOM

Also, sometime during that first week of October, it's possible we will need to schedule a Special Board to discuss reopening plans now that Alameda County has entered the red tier. So, there is a lot to be done, both for our school district and the election

2 – Like City Council member Jen Cavenaugh said in last week's Post, after my election in 2016 I saved any campaign materials I thought I could reuse if I ran for reelection. The signs are a little worn, but we stuck brightly colored "Re-elect" stickers on them and they were ready to go. Reusing these signs is helping to keep my campaign costs minimal. While I know that people have mixed feelings about lawn signs, I do think it's a valuable way for residents to share who they are supporting with friends and neighbors. And with so many Piedmont residents enjoying time

outside walking, the signs help to raise awareness about the upcoming election.

We were able to salvage 138 signs and they've all been placed. I do not plan to print any more, so I apologize to anyone who wanted a sign and wasn't able to get one.

VERONICA ANDERSON THIGPEN

1 – As the election draws closer, I am excited about the prospect of serving on the Piedmont School Board and representing constituents' interests. I decided to run because I offer a fresh perspective; a background in communications, education policy and board governance; and experience as a parent. I've been actively engaged in this community since I moved here, and recently, I've worked with community advocates to draft and submit racial and educational equity policies that were recently approved by the School Board. If elected, I am looking forward to working in partnership with families, educators, school board members and community residents to make sure our children get the excellent education they deserve. My vision for doing this work involves elevating equity as a core value to address the spectrum of student needs and creating more spaces and structures for student voices to be heard, understood and empowered.

2 – I am using lawn signs for my campaign to raise awareness and name recognition – key elements in this season's contested school board race. As I meet with Piedmont voters on Zoom, supporters are enthusiastic about displaying lawn signs as a way to signal that they are on

our team and to help spread the word to their neighbors. Signs are also valuable tools for voters to become aware of candidates and issues. Using lawn signs also gave me an opportunity to work with a local design talent and a resident businessman. I am grateful to Suzanne Hidekawa for her work creating lawn signs. I also appreciate Sedrick Tydus of Minuteman Press for producing the flyers in today's Post.

HARI TITAN

1 – I am quite calm about our local school board election. This is a major commitment to public service. I am pleased that voters have a wide variety of choices. A choice between candidates endorsed by the largest donors to the Ed Foundation to those who are not. A choice of candidates with a lot of experience reviewing and debating issues on the school board to those with little such experience. A choice of candidates endorsed by the teachers' union to those who are not. A choice of candidates who illuminate many aspects of the school district to single-issue candidates. A choice of candidates who will have kids in the district over the next few years to those who will not. I am hopeful more parents will have time to think independently about who they should vote for and dig into the details of what each candidate sees as challenges facing the school district besides the pandemic.

2 – At first, I wasn't going to use lawn signs. I called and knocked on doors with signs and often discovered the owner doesn't know the candidate and was asked by a respected endorser to put up a lawn sign as a favor. It seems lawn

See School Board Q&A on page 29

SPORTS

Highlander football set to return October 6

Water polo, cross country still uncertain

By Jonathan Comeaux

Piedmont's football team will finally return to the girdrion next week, now under COVID-19 protocols. It marks the first team at the school to initiate organized practices.

The news comes shortly after Alameda County permitted use of athletic fields and outdoor gatherings in social bubbles of 12 or less.

The Highlanders intend on practicing within health protocols by "air methods," meaning players will not make contact with each other.

"We are beginning our off-season conditioning starting October 6. This will be the equivalent to what we have done in past summers to get the boys ready for the fall season, but we will now be conducting the sessions within pandemic protocols," described veteran assistant coach Dick Carter.

"We'll be doing non-contact air drills, so players will not be contacting any others and be in pods of players," added newly hired head JV coach Daniel King.

Another hurdle will be how quarterbacks participate with the concerns of reducing the spread of the COVID virus.

Cross-Country

But the girls' and boys' cross-country teams, which also practice at Witter Field, have yet to receive clearance from the school, league, or North Coast Section, and are practicing outside of the school.

"I haven't heard a thing. We set up a camp situation with Piedmont Recreation that goes through November 19. We were told we can't meet as a school team as long as students are not physically on campus. We would like to practice officially as a team," explained cross country coach Jeanine Holmlund.

The cross country team has taken unconventional routes to train over the summer and through the fall break. Senior Alex Weekes traveled to Colorado in July for do high-altitude training. Some trained solo or in groups, with Holmlund's running camp at Piedmont Community Hall supplementing more training.

The cross country team has produced some of the more notable athletes at the school, including two of the last three Athletes of the Year, Sophia Zalewski (2020) and Reece Proctor (2018).

The team has qualified for the State Championship meet every year since 2010.

Water Polo

In even more dire straits is the school's water polo program. Piedmont Pool was closed and the city has said it will not reopen. That means the high school and school district will need to quickly find a temporary pool for the season for the girls' and boys' water polo teams.

"We don't have a practice schedule yet because we don't have a pool," explained boys' head coach John Savage. "The Piedmont Pool isn't opening, and will likely permanently close. I have yet to find a pool in Alameda County that is open and allowing outside groups to rent it. We are working on finding a pool. We also need pressure on the city council to reopen the pool," said Savage.

Savage along with the swimming and water polo community in Piedmont has been pushing for measure UU on the November ballot in hopes that it will bring repairs or a facelift to the Piedmont Pool.

Last year the team practiced at Laney College, but the rental cost is \$10,000 annually for each team. He is expecting that price to double this year.

"It would be difficult, and expensive, for both teams (girls and boys) to continue to operate.



Staff Photo

With Witter Field re-opened, Piedmont High has scheduled its first football practice next week on October 6.



Photo by Todd Marshburn

The football team starts its ramp-up period for the winter season in preparation of a Week 1 opener in January.



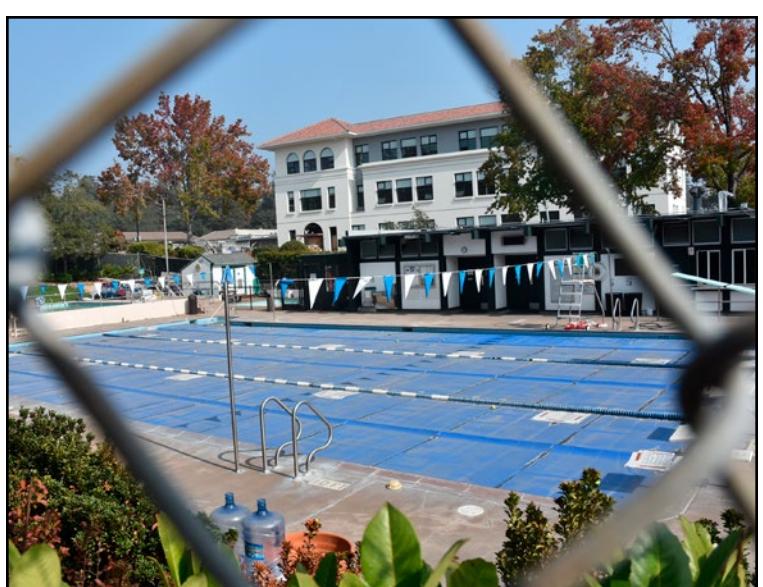
Staff Photo

The cross-country team is still waiting for the go-ahead to start its season.



Staff Photo

Boys' water polo coach John Savage said with the Piedmont Pool closed, the season could be in jeopardy.



Staff Photo

The status of the now closed Piedmont Pool presents a dilemma. The high school has not confirmed what pool will be used for the girls' and boys' water polo teams, traditionally fall sports.

JV Scots still looking to fill roster under new coach Daniel King



Photos by Ken Evans

Former coach Tom Cassasa has decided to take a year off from coaching, handing the lead job off to former defensive coordinator Daniel King.

By Jonathan Comeaux

The Junior Varsity football team at Piedmont High is getting ready to start its first in-person practice of 2020 now that Alameda County health officials cleared outdoors groups in pods.

Practice starts next week on October 6.

The Scots will be playing under a new head coach, Daniel King, who was the defensive coordinator of the team last season. Former coach Tom Cassasa indicated that he wanted to take the year off from coaching.

"Tom told me that he wanted to take a year off. Last year I was with the team as defensive coordinator. I know the sophomores but we haven't been able to meet any of the freshmen or new players. But I'm excited to meet everyone next Tuesday," said King.

King played semi-pro football

and collegiately for the College of San Mateo and Bethune-Cookman in Florida. From there, he coached Pop Warner in Palo Alto and Hayward before joining Castlemont High.

"We had a scrimmage against Piedmont and I met the former coach John Trotman. We built a relationship over a year and I told him that I wanted a new opportunity, and I wound up at Piedmont.

But for the JV Highlanders, no physical presence at school is undoubtedly taking a hit on new prospects. With just 17 players officially listed, King is hopeful to get the number closer to 30.

"I'd love to get close to 30 – the more the better. We've been going over offense and defense over our Zoom online calls. We're able to draw up our plays, design them, and go over the Xs and Os. Hopefully, that gives us an edge with our young guys learning. It's

kind of like doing homework," said King.

With sophomores only so far, there is plenty of room on the roster for freshmen.

King is hopeful that that start of practice will draw the attention of a lot of underclassmen.

"We'll be out on field wearing our football shirts. Normally, a new freshman may see a player with his gear on and ask them, 'How do I sign up for football?' Now we don't have that luxury, so we are hoping that a parent or young man sees us practicing and gains interest," added King.

For more information about the Piedmont High football program, contact JV coach Daniel King at Danielking52@yahoo.com, assistant coach Dick Carter at camktgrp@comcast.net, or varsity head coach Jerome Johnson Johnson@piedmontathletics.com.



The JV Scots football team is still looking to finalize its roster for the season, which begins in January. Training, however, starts October 6.



The JV team would benefit from having 10-15 more players.

Pac-12 announces 7-game schedule starting Nov. 6



Photo courtesy of Sports Illustrated

Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott is in more hot water after the conference reportedly handed out around \$4 million in bonuses despite laying off half of its 196 member staff in July.

By Jonathan Comeaux

The Pac-12 Conference announced on Thursday, September 24, that it will begin the football season on Friday, November 6.

Halloween was reportedly on the table as a starting date for several schools, but the Pac-12 and commissioner Larry Scott came to an official ruling after a meeting that Thursday.

"This has been the result of what we said back in August -- that we'd follow the science, follow the data, follow the advice from our medical experts, and that we know how badly our student-athletes want to compete, as student-athletes for the Pac-12, but that we would only do so when we felt that we could do so safely," Scott said.

Scott also announced that men's and women's basketball can begin November 25.

Each school will play its five divisional opponents plus one divisional crossover game for North and South teams. The Pac-12 Championship game will be played on December 18.

The conference is expected to release its official revised schedule this week. However, some schools still have not gained clearance from state and local officials.

Although nearly all schools are expected to receive full clearance, there are some obstacles. The University of Colorado, for example, will be ineligible to practice for the next two weeks because the County of Boulder has prohibited student gatherings.

Player safety precautions and having enough time to properly prepare for a season of full-contact football are also of the utmost concerns.

The Pac-12 medical advisory board recommended a two-week ramp-up period, followed by four weeks of full-contact prac-

tice prior to games being played. Teams are currently eligible to have 20 hours of practice per week.

As for the College Football Playoffs, Scott said they "absolutely" have a chance to include a team, meaning the conference will be eligible to collect the base payout to each of the Power 5 conferences. It was \$66 million last year.

"Our schools, knowing we're going to be able to play a meaningful number of games, high-level games, with our championship concluding before that final CFP meeting, we absolutely have the opportunity to have a team in the mix for the playoff," Scott said, "and I know our teams and our student-athletes are coming back, eager to compete."

Pac-12 in more hot water

A report from the Mercury News last week described that Pac-12 distributed bonuses all the way from commissioner Scott to mid-level managers just one month before the conference furloughed half of its 196 employees in its San Francisco office.

According to the report, the Pac-12 handed out around \$4 million in performance bonuses, an amount that would equated at least 40 full-time positions.

The conference's performance bonuses were accelerated from its usual timeline in September and October to coincide with salary reductions from the highly-paid employees and were used to "support the retention of key employees."

The Mercury News points out that Scott earned \$2.2 million in bonus and incentive compensation, already in addition to his \$2.95 million salary.

Tax documents show that conference and network division officials earned approximately \$1.35 million in bonus payments for the next 10-highest paid employees.



Photos courtesy of Pac-12

The Pac-12 Conference announced that their football season will start on November 6.



Photos courtesy of USTA

Piedmont native Mackenzie McDonald won his first round match at the French Open and will play No. 2 Rafael Nadal this morning.

Mackenzie McDonald vs. Rafael Nadal in French Open this morning

By Jonathan Comeaux

Former Piedmont resident Mackenzie McDonald, 25, ranked No. 236 in the world, plays in the second round of the French Open this morning, Wednesday, September 30 at 4:30 a.m. against the legendary Rafael Nadal, ranked No. 2 in the world.

Nadal is the highest rated player McDonald has played in his career.

To get to the second round of the Grand Slam tournament, McDonald dispatched Canada's Steven Diez – who was favored as the No. 181 ranked player on the ATP standings – in four sets, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

It was a critical win for McDonald, who has struggled in Grand Slam matches past three sets.

In January, McDonald dropped a two-set advantage in the Australian Open against Daniel Evans. Then in similar fashion at the U.S. Open earlier this month on September 1, he relinquished another two-set lead to fall in five against Casper Ruud.

Against Diez, Mackie did well powering his first serve into play—gaining 11 aces and a strong 52 first serve points in 77 attempts. The Piedmont native's second serve was nearly as effective, converting 58 percent of his opportunities with 21 points in 36 attempts.

McDonald played one of his most consistent games since returning from a hamstring injury at the start of the year. But with Nadal looming, McDonald would shock the world with an upset of the Spanish superstar.

Mackie, however, has experience against the world's best. In 2018 at the Australian Open, McDonald nearly upset the then-No. 3 ranked player, Grigor Dimitrov, taking him to five sets.

McDonald is also competing in the French Open's double's ladder with Tennys Sandgren. They defeated Cameron Norrie and Marton Fucsovics in three sets in their first round match.

McDonald's match with Nadal will be aired on the Tennis Channel.

Come say Hi to Simon Ho at his new shop. It's less than 3 miles from Piedmont.

Glenview Automotive

SIMON HO

510-530-4222
1499 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland

Map to Glenview Automotive



**GLENVIEW
AUTOMOTIVE**

By Jonathan Comeaux

Heading into Week 4 of the NFL, things went as predicted for the San Francisco 49ers and Las Vegas Raiders. The Niners improved to 2-1 after predictably dominating the New York Giants 36-9, despite missing a handful of starters with injuries. The Raiders lost 36-20 to the New England Patriots to have a 2-1 record as well.

The 49ers have scored a combined 67 points in two weeks and allowed just 22 with the bulk of their starting lineup sitting out due to injuries. Sitting out on Sunday were QB Jimmy Garoppolo, TE George Kittle, RB Raheem Mostert, DE Dee Ford, LB Dre Greenlaw, DE Nick Bosa, CB Richard Sherman, RB Tevin Coleman, WR Deebo Samuel, and DL Solomon Thomas.

49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan has reiterated that he is comfortable going forward with quarterback Nick Mullens, who he feels would be capable of being a starter on several teams in the league.

Mullens has been impressive in replacement duty, totaling 2,691 passing yards, 14 touchdowns, and 11 interceptions in 11 appearances and nine starts. He threw for 343 yards and a touchdown against the Giants last weekend.

San Francisco hosts the Philadelphia Eagles this Sunday, and in spite of the injuries, is considered a heavy favorite.

Eagles QB Carson Wentz has struggled mightily through the early portion of the season with six interceptions. 49ers' defensive coordinator Robert Saleh is known for dialing up an aggressive pass rush, so this could lead to the Eagles leaning on a somewhat weak rushing attack with Miles Sanders and Boston Scott.

Las Vegas Raiders

The Raiders face another tough week, with the Buffalo Bills walking into Allegiant Stadium with more heat than the Las Vegas desert. The Raiders and coach Jon Gruden will likely leave Week 4 with a 2-2 record.

Bills QB Josh Allen may be the early favorite for League Most Valuable Player. He is averaging an astonishing 346 yards per game with 10 touchdowns and just one interception. If the Raiders have a chance at winning, it will be because they limited Allen from launching deep balls and getting into the backfield to acquire sacks.

That's a tall-task when defending a mobile quarterback.

Oakland A's down 1 game in playoffs

The No. 2 seeded A's opened up the AL Wildcard round with a surprising 4-1 loss against the No. 7 Chicago White Sox. They now face elimination in the best of three series today at 12:10 p.m.

The A's will likely start their consistent pitcher Chris Bassitt and keep the talented Frankie Montas in their back pocket for Game 3. Montas, notably, struck out 13 batters in his last appearance.

This year marks Oakland's third straight trip to the postseason. They reached 97 wins in

Pro Sports

49ers romp; A's in playoffs; Roots in soccer semis



Photo courtesy of NinersNation.com

The 49ers were victorious again, despite playing with a handful of backup players. Quarterback Nick Mullens (left) threw for 343 yards in a 36-9 win against the NY Giants.



Photo courtesy of Mercury News

The A's dropped Game 1 of the AL Wildcard series, 4-1 to the Chicago White Sox. They face elimination today.

both the 2018 and 2019 seasons and have advanced just once during 11 previous playoff trips since 2000.

Oakland Roots in NISA Semifinals

Oakland's pro soccer team, the Oakland Roots, is in NISA's semifinal round as the top seed out of Group A after beating the Michigan Stars 1-0 on Sunday, September 27.

They will now play Chattanooga FC in the semifinals today, Wednesday, September 30 at 2:00 p.m.

In their 1-0 victory over the

Stars, it was fascinating to see Roots manager Jordan Ferrell bring an entirely different lineup. His starting 11 was without forwards Matt Fondy and Jack McInerney in a must-win game, giving the two veteran attackers rest in the first half in favor of a defensive three centerback, 5-2-3 formation.

And it worked. Recent acquisition Seo-In Kim scored the game-winner in the fourth minute of play on a beautiful backheel flick on a corner from Manny Gonzalez. The Roots were able to gain opportunities on the counterattack.



Photo courtesy of the Detroit News

The Oakland Roots soccer team has advanced to the NISA semifinals. They play today against Chattanooga at 2:00 p.m.

HIKING WITH JON

Escaping the foot traffic in Oakland

By Jonathan Comeaux

Beating some of the foot traffic in the Oakland hills can be a bit of a battle. Going at prime hiking hours around 10:00 a.m. will undoubtedly leave you wondering if some trails are suitable for hiking during a global pandemic.

Going early to trails was already important to escape the heavy crowds of people in popular areas throughout Joaquin Miller, Redwood Regional, Tilden, other frequented parks. But now the heat only reinforces that plan.

Trails are most trafficked from 10 a.m. to noon, and locations like Redwood Peak at Redwood Regional, Wildcat Peak at Tilden, and Sibley Regional are the primary destinations for countless people.

Here are some trailheads that we've previously covered which will connect you to less trafficked areas:

Richard C. Trudeau Conference Center – Joaquin Miller Park

Parking at the Richard C. Trudeau Conference Center lot may seem counterintuitive, but given there are only 30 parking stalls—the foot traffic is inherently manageable.

From here, you can venture on



Photo courtesy of

East Bay Regional Park District
The Moon Gate at Redwood Regional Park is a unique trailhead and usually is not crowded.



Staff Photo

The Richard C. Trudeau Conference Center in Joaquin Miller Park in the Oakland hills is a great starting point for hikers who want a trailhead that is less trafficked.



Staff Photo

Bort Meadows Staging Area on Redwood Road is a good starting point for hiking in Chabot Regional Park.

the Dunn Trail alongside Skyline Boulevard which travels uphill toward the Chabot Space and Science Center. You can also venture on the Serpentine Trails, which has historical markers of volcanoes and pre-historic wildlife that roamed the area, and connects to the Golden Spike Trail.

Moon Gate – Redwood Regional Park

The Moon Gate may provide the best junction point onto the often tracked West Ridge Trail. Also tucked along a hillside on Skyline Boulevard, the trailhead

is just a half mile away from much more popular starting points like Redwood Bowl and Sequoia Arena.

Here, you can show some insider knowledge with the Skyline Gate Staging Area a near mile away and is routinely packed with cars overflowing out of the parking lot.

Bort Meadows – Chabot Regional Park

Bort Meadows of Chabot Regional is a less trafficked trailhead along Redwood Road.

This trailhead connects you to the MacDonald Trail, Grass Valley Trail, and Horseshoe Trails. You can catch glimpses of the San Leandro Reservoir and can venture all the way to Lake Chabot should you want to make a day out of it.

Leona Canyon & Leona Heights

Leona Canyon has trailheads on Campus Drive and the Merritt College parking lot, offering a quick 1.7 mile walk alongside Rifle Range Creek. Hikers and dog walkers often sit down next to the creek, under the shade of Oak trees and beside groves of ferns.

Across from Merritt College is Leona Heights. It has another 1.5 miles of trails by Horseshoe Creek. At the top of Leona Heights, you can spot a clear look the Mormon Temple, Oakland, and San Francisco across the water.

Dimond Canyon

Dimond Canyon's Bridgeview trail is just 1.5 miles near the Montclair border.

It spans alongside the Montclair Golf Course driving range—which is considered a hidden treasure to locals—beneath Redwood trees and the usual assortment of Oaks and Bays. For a climb to get a lower leg workout, start at the El Centro Trailhead on El Centro Avenue. For a decline that starts closer to Montclair, begin on Monterey Boulevard.

A view of the Mormon Temple from Leona Heights.

Staff Photo

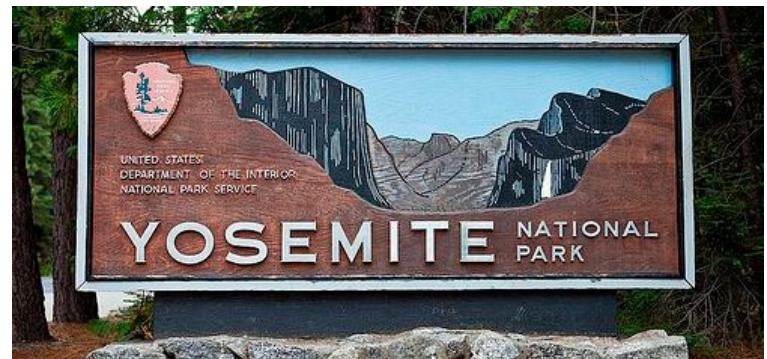


Staff Photo

Dimond Canyon takes you alongside the Montclair Golf Course driving range.

Fire Update: Yosemite re-opens after brief closure

US Forest Service parks still closed



Photos courtesy of NPS.gov

Yosemite National Park has reopened on September 25 after a brief closure.

By Jonathan Comeaux

Yosemite National Park reopened on Friday, September 25 after a week closure due to air quality as a result of the Creek Fire.

The park closed on September 17 after air quality in the area reached an air quality index of 400. Conditions have since improved with Yosemite Valley at 97 air quality index as of yesterday.

Although camping has re-opened, reservations in advance are still required. Yosemite has requested advance notice from visitors since the start of COVID-19 health protocols.

"Campsites in Yosemite Valley will be available for incoming campers beginning on Friday, September 25... Yosemite National Park continues to require day use reservations to enter the park... Portions of the park may close intermittently due to changes in air quality and smoke impacts," wrote the park in a press release.

Campfires are prohibited in Yosemite National Park for campers.

The Mariposa Grove remains closed. It is the only part of the

park to suffer damage from the massive Creek Fire two weeks ago.

As of September 29, the Creek Fire is 44 percent contained, but 305,240 acres have been burned. It has been active for 24 days and has destroyed 855 structures.

US Forest Service Parks

The U.S. Forest Service closed all of its 18 parks in California on September 9. Closures have since been lifted for nine national forests: El Dorado, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta-Trinity, Stanislaus, and Tahoe.

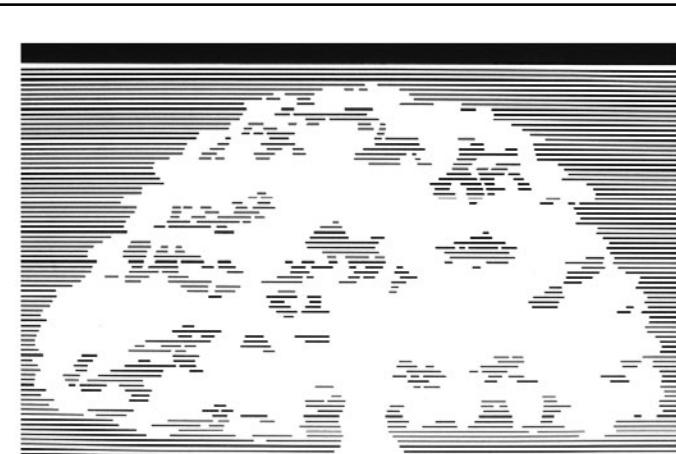
National forests that remain closed are: Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, Inyo, Klamath, San Bernardino, Sequoia, Sierra, and Six Rivers.

"Continued closures are based on extreme fire conditions, critical limitations of firefighting resources, and to provide for firefighter and public safety," said Randy Moore, Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region.

"We understand how important access to the National Forests is to our visitors. Our aim is to prevent any new fires on the landscape."



Smoky air conditions blanketed Yosemite, resulting in its brief closure.

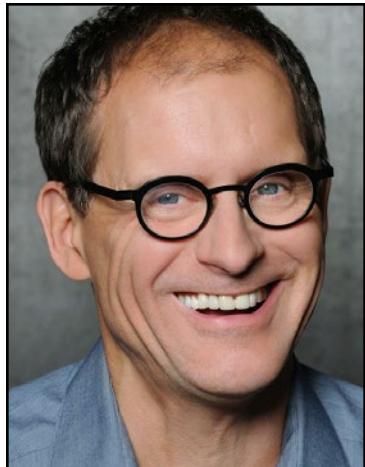


TREE SCULPTURE
COMPLETE TREE CARE
Proudly serving Piedmont since 1965, yes 1965!
Fully Insured ♦ Certified Arborists ♦ License #655977
(510) 654-0646 or (510) 562-4000

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Aurora Theatre presents *The Flats*, written by 3 local playwrights

Audio drama on Oct. 23 stars Anthony Fusco, Lauren English, Khary Moye



Anthony Fusco stars in Aurora Theater's *The Flats*, written by 3 Bay Area playwrights.

By Allyson Aleksey

Bay Area playwrights Lauren Gunderson, Cleavon Smith, and Jonathan Spector team up to create an original audio drama, *The Flats*, for Aurora Theatre Company.

Aurora Artistic Director Josh Costello directs actors Lauren

English, Anthony Fusco, Khary Moye, and Rebecca Schweitzer in this new drama, which will premiere on October 23.

The Flats tells the story of a group of Berkeley triplex residents, thrown together by a shelter-in-place order due to a mysterious threat. Brooke is a Black man navigating the white world of a supposedly liberal Berkeley; Harmony is a white suburban mom away from her kids for the first time in years; Leonard is an aging hippie with a theory that may change everything. The drama asks the question: when the old system is thrown into chaos, how do we build a new world together?

Fusco, a Bay Area actor always in demand, plays Leonard, English plays Harmony, and Moye plays Brooke. Elton Bradman is the sound designer, and Elizabeth Lada leads artwork for the production.

For more information on the upcoming production, visit <https://auroratheatre.org/the-flats>.

McCaulou's

ESTÉE LAUDER FREE GIFT PROMO!



FREE 7-PC ESTÉE LAUDER GIFT With Any Estée Lauder Purchase of 39.50 or More! (Value Up to 140.00)

CHOOSE:

7-pc DayWear Gift Set OR 7-pc Resilience Gift Set



7-PC DAYWEAR Set Includes:

1. Bag with Birthstones
2. Mascara in Extreme Black
3. Lip Pencil in Rose
4. Lipstick in Rebellious Rose
5. Perfectly Clean Cleanser
6. DayWear Eye Cooling Gel
7. DayWear Moisture Cream



7-PC RESILIENCE Set Includes:

1. Bag with Birthstones
2. Mascara in Extreme Black
3. Lip Pencil in Rose
4. Lipstick in Rebellious Rose
5. Perfectly Clean Cleanser
6. Resilience Eye Cream
7. Resilience Face & Neck Cream

Quantities are limited. One offer per client per event. While Supply Lasts.

AVAILABLE IN STORES:

Lafayette • Danville • Countrywood • Montclair • Auburn

AVAILABLE ONLINE: mccaulous.com

PHONE ORDERS: (925) 283-3380

History of Piedmont Choirs

Training Dept. – Introducing intermediate music skills



The training department is an early starting point for young singers.

By Allyson Aleksey

Part 3 of an ongoing series

Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir introduces intermediate music skills to students in first grade and older in the training department, the second echelon of the three-department program.

After graduating from the kinder department, students move on to the training department, where they deepen their understanding of dictation, music theory, and beginning stage presence. They also expand their musical literacy and begin to learn how to sight read. Many other basic skills are solidified here, such as ear training, breath control, and vowel formation. These skills are necessary as

young students' voices begin to mature, explained Artistic Director Eric Tuan.

"The training department is our choir school, where the singers acquire the skills and technique to prepare them to be in our performing choirs," Tuan said.

Piedmont Choirs places singers into appropriate groups based on grade, age, and ability. There are four girls training groups, Girls Training 1 (grade 1 - 3), Girls Training 2 (grade 2 - 5), Girls Training 3 (grade 3 - 6), and Girls Training 4 (grade 4 - 7); there are two boys groups, Boys Training 1 (grade 1 - 3), and Boys Training 2 (grade 2 - 5).

A typical rehearsal includes vocal warm-ups with emphasis on vocal pedagogy by developing and exercising the singing voice.

At this level, students begin to extend their vocal range and learn to sing to the natural limits of their own range.

In rehearsal, whether in-person or virtual, there is also an emphasis on group repertoire, music theory, vocal games, and choreography.

The program utilizes the Kodaly method of teaching, which includes the use of hand signals during singing exercises to provide a visual aid for solfa syllables. It is an approach to music education developed in Hungary during the mid-twentieth century by Zoltán Kodály.

"The Kodaly method brings students through a developmentally appropriate sequence that is focused on having them discover

See Piedmont Choir on page 30

Michael Tilson Thomas documentary premieres October 23

By Allyson Aleksey

Michael Tilson Thomas: Where Now Is, a documentary exploring the life of the former San Francisco Opera conductor, will premiere nationwide on Friday, October 23, at 6 p.m.

The documentary is presented as part of Public Broadcasting Service's (PBS) award-winning *American Masters* series. The film documents Tilson Thomas' life and career, from his childhood in California to his ascension to the world stage and leadership roles with the New World Symphony and the San Francisco Symphony. It also sheds light on formative experiences in MTT's musical life, including the central influence of his father, his first time hearing the music of James Brown, and his early clashes with the music orthodoxy. All these experiences have shaped his personality, artistry, and goals along his path to becoming one of the country's most important conductors and musical figures.

Where Now Is features original interviews with MTT and other music luminaries, including composer Steve Reich, Los Angeles Philharmonic CEO



Retired San Francisco Symphony conductor Michael Tilson Thomas.

Chad Smith, pianist Ralph Grier, Boston Symphony Orchestra CEO Mark Volpe, *San Francisco Chronicle* music critic Joshua Kosman, and many others.

The film also includes scenes from MTT's day-to-day life at the New World Symphony, the post-graduate orchestral academy in Miami Beach that he co-founded in 1987 to prepare young musi-

cians of diverse backgrounds for leadership roles in classical music.

In addition to *Where Now Is*, PBS will premiere *Metallica and the San Francisco Symphony*, featuring MTT with the iconic heavy metal band, on October 29.

You can watch the premiere on PBS at www.pbs.org/americanmasters.



Music Director Michael Morgan conducts Gustav Mahler's *Rückert Lieder*.

Oakland Symphony re/PAST: Mozart and Mahler

By Allyson Aleksey

Each week, Oakland Symphony is making archival footage available to patrons while its doors remain closed due to the current health crisis.

This week, Music Director Michael Morgan introduced two archived works: Gustav Mahler's *Rückert Lieder*, originally performed at the Paramount Theatre on October 14, 2016; and Mozart's *Symphony No. 40* in

G minor, K. 550, originally performed on November 17, 2017.

"The five songs on texts by Friedrich Rückert were not written as a cycle, but are often performed that way. I highly recommend you follow along with the poetry," Morgan said.

A program link is provided, and Morgan recommends that the listener follow the text of *Rückert Lieder* as presented by the symphony, in specific song order.

"We're pairing the Mahler *Rückert Lieder* with Mozart's *Symphony No. 40*. The famous G-minor Symphony hardly needs an introduction, as it's one of the most famous pieces in the orchestral repertoire. It exists in two orchestrations: one with and one without clarinets. This is the first version, without clarinets," Morgan said.

You can view the performances by visiting <https://www.oaklandsymphony.org/repast/>.

West Edge Opera's "Aperture" launches in October

Opera company creates commissioning residency

By Allyson Aleksey

West Edge Opera has announced the launch of "Aperture," an online platform to create a new opera and music theater in a world where artists are separated from their audiences.

The announcement follows the postponement of the Opera's 2020 season. West Edge Opera, home based in Berkeley, took the opportunity to invent a program that brings the creative process of new opera directly to the people who are most invested in the art form.

"Aperture" seeks to redefine the way operas are chosen for commission and will provide opportunities for both experienced composers and librettist teams, as well as new talent from diverse backgrounds. Select teams will receive commissions of \$60,000 and a live performance of the work when it is safe to gather again.

Subscribing members of the new program will receive twice-weekly emails filled with video progress reports, analysis, and mini documentaries that discuss the work being made, as well as candid glimpses into the featured



West Edge Opera General Director Mark Streshinsky.

artists' lives.

West Edge Opera General Director Mark Streshinsky says he found inspiration for the program in his new daily rituals.

"The pandemic has been really hard for everyone in the performing arts," he said. "For me, some days it felt like [actor] Leslie Jordan's little 90-second updates

on Instagram were the highlights of my day. I thought, what if we could do that for new opera? West Edge has found such success with [the new work series] Snapshot, I thought maybe an online version could keep people connected and creating.

The new series, Snapshots, was co-created by Brian Rosen.

"As a composer without much hope of in-person performance any time soon, I found myself pretty shut down and without much incentive to write. A program like this could bring creators closer to the people who care that these works are still being made. That sort of interaction could keep creativity going while we're trapped in our home," Rosen said.

Aperture will be open for submissions in late August, and selected artistic teams will start to be notified in late September. General Membership will be open to the public in late October and will range from \$15 to \$90 per month, with more access and interactivity offered at higher levels of membership. For more information, visit <http://westedgeopera.org/aperture>.

Floor Dimensions
where beautiful rooms begin

GET UP TO
\$500 OFF

on your next flooring purchase*

SAVE NOW

OFFER ENDS 12-31-20 • *See store for detail.

1081 Eastshore Hwy, Berkeley
510-525-5656

SF Piano Festival offers full playlist on YouTube



Pianist Jeffrey LaDeur is founder of the annual San Francisco International Piano Festival.

The 4th Annual San Francisco International Piano Festival, organized and directed by pianist Jeffrey LaDeur this past fall, is providing all of this year's festival performances available online in a cohesive playlist.

The season welcomed visitors virtually, and combined live-stream concerts, curated programs, and retrospective highlights from past seasons. The playlist acts as a festival passport, connecting viewers with the media that formed the festival's programming this season.

The playlist is in order by date of premiere or air date and was made available after the festival concluded on August 30. Of particular interest to Piedmont audiences are the opening and closing concerts. For the first time in its four-year history, the Festival did

not open at the Piedmont Center for the Arts. Due to COVID-19, all concerts were without live audiences.

The opening concert was on August 20 with "A Call to Reflection in Collaboration with Lieder Alive!" featuring mezzo-soprano Kindra Scharich and pianist Jeffrey LaDeur founder of the festival. The festival concluded on August 30 with "Reflection in Nature Livestream Concert," featuring LaDeur, Scharich, oboist Jesse Barrett, clarinet player Jonathan Szin, bassoonist Kristopher King, and horn player Stephanie Stroud.

To view the playlist, visit https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLycU6upYk9k1T2aP-GzUXwdRFz_29ijCT. For more information about repertoire, performers, and partnerships, visit www.sfpiano.org.



Mezzo-soprano Kindra Scharich was a featured performer in the opening and closing concerts at the 4th annual SF International Piano Festival this past fall.

FLAX art & design

3 WAYS TO SHOP THIS SUMMER

- In Store**
WE'RE OPEN
- Curbside Pickup**
ORDER ONLINE AT FLAXART.COM
- Local Delivery** *No Minimums*
WITHIN 6 MILES OF OUR SF & OAKLAND STORES

Art Supplies Kids' Stuff Fine Papers Urban Art
Stationery Cool Gifts Crafts Journals

1501 Martin Luther King Jr Way | Oakland | 510-867-2324 | flaxart.com | [flaxartdesign](https://facebook.com/flaxartdesign)

MOVIES FOR ADULTS



A scene from George Tillman's *The Hate U Give*.

The Hate U Give – brilliant film about teenagers and race

Movie review by Chris Honore

The Hate U Give is extraordinary, based on the best selling Young Adult novel by Angie Thomas. For teens (and their parents) I would suggest it's a must see. The film is insightful, nuanced, and involving while possessing a decency and humanity that prove to be elusive in today's bifurcated/tribal/angry social milieu.

The narrative is, with sensitivity and understanding, a deep dive into the life of a young (16-years old) African-American teen that asks the audience to walk in her sneakers. Hers is a life that consists of living with her family in Atlanta's predominantly black neighborhood, Garden Heights, while attending a prep school that is mostly white.

The girl is Starr Carter (Amandla Stenberg) who grapples with the reality of standing with one foot in the black community and the other, however tentatively, in the contrasting world of her white peers.

Director George Tillman makes superb use of the breakout performance of Stenberg. She gives fulsome substance to a coming-of-age tale, one in which she conveys the duality of her life and its code-shifting demands. She is incandescent; it's a portrayal in which she inhabits a bright, vital girl who is carefully navigating a journey that soon becomes both harrowing and life altering.

Tillman is unflinching, refusing to pull back from revelations that America has yet to overcome the painful realities of racism and socioeconomic inequality. To Tillman's credit he rarely lapses into polemics; rather, he relies in

on a point of view from the inside out.

There is one tragic moment when Starr bears witness to the death of her childhood friend, Khalil (Algee Smith). Driving Starr home from a party, he is stopped and then is shot by a white police officer. As the singular witness, Starr is forced to make a moral choice regarding stepping forward or remaining silent. For her it is a nexus of the rock and the hard place and she is tormented by indecision. Her mother (Regina Hall) counsels retreat. Her father, Maverick Carter (played by Russell Hornsby in an outstanding role), insists she speak her truth.

It's at this point Starr faces questions of identity and morality that up to this point have never intruded into her young life.

There is a backstory scene in which her father sits his young children down at the dining room table (Starr is 10, her brother 9), and gives them "the talk," one that consists of what to do and how to behave if stopped by a white police officer. Put your

hands on the dashboard, he tells them, do not resist, and obey all commands. The children sit silently, looking at their father with unblinking eyes, giving him their total attention.

In many ways, "the talk" frames the film's narrative; it is steeped in perspective while decoding meaning and shows that to survive while being black in America means mastering a type of cultural bilingualism.

The movie's title, *The Hate U Give*, originated from a mnemonic line from *Thug's Life* by Tupac Shakur, "The Hate You Give Little Infants (expletive) Up Everybody," meaning our children are watching and learning. Indeed. And they are living and absorbing what they see. Starr thought she had escaped, was somehow immune, and then discovers that who she is, is a young black woman in America.

The Hate U Give. Directed by George Tillman Jr. Starring Amandla Stenberg, Regina Hall, Russell Hornsby. 132 min. Rated PG-13.



Amandla Stenberg stars as Starr Carter in *The Hate U Give*.

**Piedmont Copy
AND PRINTING**

New Temporary Store Hours

Monday–Friday 11 am to 5 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

4237 Piedmont Avenue | Oakland, California 94611
tel (510) 655-3030 | fax (510) 655-3025 | print@piedmontcopy.com

Gran Torino



Clint Eastwood portrays Walt Kowalski in *Gran Torino*.

Movie review by Chris Honore

alski and then some. The man is bigoted, ever growling, narrow of mind, without patience or tolerance; yet, he is also decent, principled and courageous. When a family of Hmong – people from the hills of Thailand, Laos and Vietnam – move in next-door, Kowalski regards them as "slopes" and "zipper heads." His prejudice is undisguised and blunt.

He survived Korea, won the Silver Star, and has little desire to get to know these people he views as unwelcome and unfamiliar. At least until events make it impossible for him to remain apart and then he involves himself in a world that surprises him. Slowly, he becomes a neighbor.

Gran Torino is eminently entertaining, if for no other reason to observe the changes Kowalski goes through as he takes a Hmong boy, Thao (Bee Vang) under his old man's wing and becomes his protector.

Of course it's impossible, with this film especially, to watch Eastwood on screen and separate him from the character Kowalski, in the same way that Tom Cruise, no matter the role, is always Tom Cruise. For an actor, it's a strength and it's a weakness. While these actors can inhabit a part, they can never completely submerge themselves to the point that the audience forgets who they are. We're watching Eastwood doing Harry doing Kowalski.

In one scene, Kowalski points a vintage M-16 rifle at a gang member and snarls, through clenched teeth, "Get off of my lawn." Ah, yes. You feeling lucky, punk? Are you?

Is *Gran Torino* worth an afternoon and the price of a ticket? Definitely. It's a familiar but involving story, and all the performances are excellent. There are moments of high tension and other moments that are downright comical and will make you laugh.

Gran Torino. Starring Clint Eastwood, Christopher Carley, Bee Vang and Ashley Her. Directed by Clint Eastwood. Rated R. 2 hrs., 10 min.



A scene from Clint Eastwood's *Gran Torino*.

MOVIES FOR KIDS

A scene from Mayano Miyazaki's *Castle in the Sky*

Castle in the Sky a fast-moving story from Miyazaki

Movie review by Chris Honore

Castle in the Sky is a swash-buckling, Indiana Jones steam-punk adventure that also manages to weave into its narrative a subtle ecological message. But above all, it's for kids with hardly any slow moments.

From the first, the story is gripping. In the opening scenes there's a kidnapping attempt of a young orphan girl Sheeta (Anna Paquin) by a secret, nefarious agent called Muska (Mark Hamil). She is flown via airship to a military fortress, but on the way the ship is attacked by a cohort of air pirates, all led by captain Dola (Cloris Leachman). The reason for the raid is to steal a precious,

mysterious amulet that Sheeta wears around her neck, a gift to her from her grandmother.

During the attack, Sheeta falls from the ship and instead of crashing to earth she floats gently down into the arms of a dreamy teenage boy, Pazu (James Van Der Beek). Together they set out on a hold-your-breath, hide-from-the-pirates adventure, a quest that leads them to a floating mythical, island called Laputa that hovers just above earth. Its source of power is a crystal, not unlike Sheeta's amulet.

Sheeta and Pazu are scrappy, courageous protagonists who relish getting into and out of sequential jams. The story is fast-paced and while there is gunplay, and

the designated villains bite the dirt, so to speak, Miyazaki never relies on gratuitous, wham-bang, shots-fired action drama. It's all in service of a let'er rip story.

Castle in the Sky is no exception. It's pure fun fantasy.

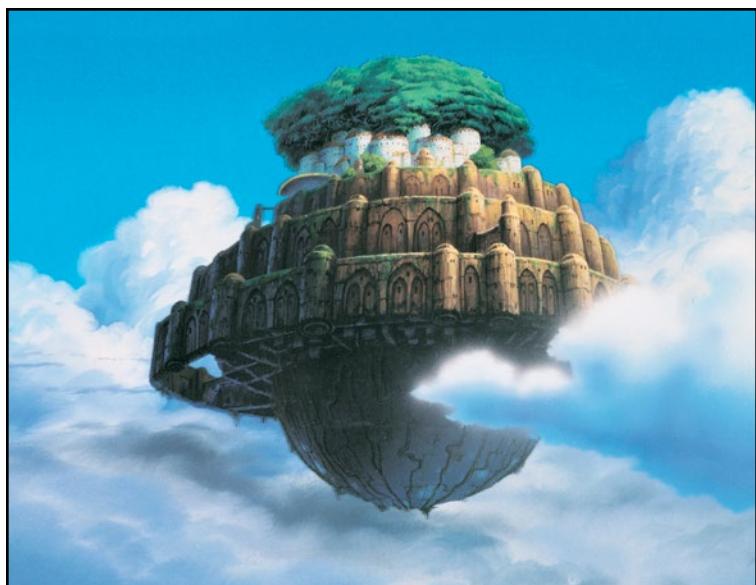
The artwork is hand-drawn (part of the brand of Studio Ghibli) and astonishingly good. In many ways it's richer than those works created by CGI, and depicts some wonderful chase scenes – a train racing across a wobbly trellis, dogfights between massive airplanes, and shoot-outs between floating dirigibles and war ships.

Sheeta and Pazu discover that Laputa is a remarkable medieval place, with crumbling castles, overrun with weeds and vines, and only marginally maintained by a crew of robots. Underground they discover that the technology that keeps Laputa afloat is not dissimilar from Sheeta's magical amulet.

If you have not introduced your youngsters to the most amazing work of Studio Ghibli and the extraordinary art and storytelling of Mayao Miyazaki, this is your chance to begin.

Castle in the Sky (1986), Written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki, From Studio Ghibli

Animé fantasy. With voices of James Van Der Beek, Anna Paquin, Cloris Leachman, Mark Hamil and Mandy Patinkin. 2 hrs., 4 min. Rated PG.

A scene from Mayano Miyazaki's *Castle in the Sky*

A "VIRTUAL" BENEFIT CONCERT AND AUCTION! NOVEMBER 14, 2020



Sponsorship and ticket information:

www.piedmontchoirs.org/benefit2020

 PIEDMONT EAST BAY
CHILDREN'S CHOIR

A Dog's Way Home a gem of a kids' movie

A scene from *A Dog's Way Home*.

Movie review by Chris Honore

As far as the kids are concerned, *A Dog's Way Home* finds the PG sweet spot and stays there. They'll take to it like, well, ducks to water. But then, of course, it's a story about a nifty dog named Bella and her owner, Lucas (Jonah Hauer King), a med student living with his mom, Teri (Ashley Judd).

Lucas and a fellow med student, Olivia, find Bella as a pup, living with cats and kittens under an abandoned wreck of a house. He takes the wiggly, excitable, playful pooch home. She is literally a rescue dog for a house about to be bulldozed.

A year goes by, Bella grows up, and is spotted by a villainous animal control guy Chuck (John Cassini), who makes it his mission to catch her on the street, unleashed. He claims she's a pit bull. Worried that Bella could be impounded and even put down, Lucas, Teri, and Olivia send her to stay briefly with relatives in New Mexico while they search for a place to live outside of the city limits and out of Chuck's jurisdiction.

But Bella is homesick, misses Lucas a lot, and at the first opportunity makes a break for it, not realizing that she is 400 miles away from home.

And so begins Bella's great adventure. It proves to be a

mildly harrowing journey that involves humans, a pack of stalking wolves, two men who want to adopt her, an orphaned mountain lion cub that tags along, an avalanche, learning to survive on leftovers in garbage bins, and other dicey moments.

Meanwhile, Bella determinedly makes her way toward home and Lucas.

Kids will love all of it. The filmmakers, having adapted *A Dog's Way Home* from the best-selling novel by Bruce Cameron, give the film a Bella voice over by Bryce Dallas Howard, allowing her to share her impressions of all that she encounters.

Regarding animals talking, kids are totally on board with anthropomorphizing animals. Plus humans talk to dogs all the time and swear they get an answer topped off with a wagging tail.

Recall that this is family friendly and with a great story. Bella meets lots of kind people along the way. Be prepared: if you don't have a Bella at home, and be prepared: kids can be pretty persistent.

A Dog's Way Home. Story by W. Bruce Cameron. Directed by Charles Martin Smith. With Jonah Hauer King, Ashley Judd, and John Cassini. 1 hr., 37 min. Rated PG.

Jonah Hauer-King and Ashley Judd star in *A Dog's Way Home*.



The Musical Gourmet

The heroic talent of Audie Murphy

By Joseph Gold

Audie Murphy's fame as a war hero was so great that it prevented fame in other areas. He was the most decorated war hero ever, and his exploits on the battlefield read like a comic book superhero...or the overwrought imagination of a fiction writer. When I saw his biographical war movie, *To Hell and Back*, I thought Murphy was a Hollywood creation. Some people are simply beyond belief. That was Audie Murphy, the war hero.

But he was famous in other areas. Oh sure, he was a successful and famous actor. There was the simple beauty of his first film, *The Red Badge of Courage*, the super-heroics of his biographical story, and the inevitable but disturbing fate in "No Name on the Bullet". And yes, he was one of the great Western actors. He deserved his popularity; that was Audie Murphy, the matinee Idol.

All these things assured fame and fortune. But what you don't know is a completely different side of the man - the artistic side that made Audie Murphy special. Strangely, his modesty eclipsed his artistic persona. Even when he was down on his luck financially, he refused lucrative offers to endorse alcohol or cigarettes in commercials. That would set a bad example and he always wanted to set a good example.

Audie Murphy hated war. What he loved was country music. While his exploits on the battlefield and in movies assured



Audie Murphy

Murphy's fame, his contributions to humanity were important. First, he made government and the public aware of what they used to call "battle fatigue".

He was also a sensitive poet. Those poems were transformed into beautiful songs. He wrote the lyrics, contributed to the music, and did the arrangements. Listen and be prepared for some high-level art songs – in the country style.

He didn't talk much about his talent. Other musical lights did. Their names are a veritable Who's Who... Dean Martin, Eddie Arnold, Roy Clark, Charlie Pride and Jimmy Dean, among others. Read "Crosses grow on Anzio" and listen to "shutters and boards" among many others.

You would expect things like this from geniuses like Benjamin Franklin and Charlie Chaplin. But Audie Murphy? Think again!

BROADWAY PET HOSPITAL



Sam (Freddi's grandson), Freddi Robertson, Lexie and Dr Gutlaizer.

Freddi Robertson

"Dr. Gutlaizer has been our vet for 12 years. He has provided Lexie with excellent medical care through his thorough exams, keen diagnostic skills, and surgical expertise. He is generous with his time and addresses my concerns in a calm, reassuring way. Lexie loves him and is always excited to see him; she showers him with doggie kisses when he comes in the room. Dr. G. is a warm and caring vet who clearly enjoys his work. We are lucky to have him take care of our girl!"

- F Robertson

WWW.BROADWAYPETHOSPITAL.COM

We now offer our clients secure online access to all your pet's health information. Call to learn more.

(510) 653-0212 4920 Broadway Oakland

Keri Butkevich named new Executive Director of Piedmont Eats Bay Children's Choir

Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir announced today it has hired Keri Butkevich as its new Executive Director, ending a four-month search for the successor to Karim Baer, its recent Executive Director.

Having served youth choral organizations in diverse communities as an Executive Director and music educator, Butkevich brings a wealth of experience in arts administration and music education to PEBCC.

"Welcoming Keri Lindell Butkevich to our community as Executive Director will complete the full organizational transition which began in 2019, with handing the baton from founding conductor Bob Geary, to our new Artistic Director, Eric Tuan," explained PEBCC Board President Poppea Dorsam, a Piedmont resident. "We look forward to this collaboration between our artistic and executive directors to inspire our mission, our community and our talented faculty and staff as we move into the future."

During the four-month process, the search team spoke with more than 100 candidates to find the ideal leader for the PEBCC community. Butkevich has served as the Executive Director for music education organizations in the Bay Area since 2008, most recently at Oakland Youth Chorus, part of the Oakland Symphony. She has been a choral educator and teaching artist in Chicago and the Bay Area for the past 15 years.

Beth Schecter provided leadership for the past nine months as Interim Executive Director.

Piedmont Choirs' Artistic Director Eric Tuan, who works closely with the Executive Director, is equally enthusiastic about Butkevich's appointment:



Keri Butkevich, newly named Executive Director of Piedmont Choirs.

"Keri's passion for youth choral programs shines through in her extensive experience as both an arts executive and a music educator. Moreover, her experience expanding access to choral music in diverse communities will be invaluable as we seek to build a more inclusive program.

"I am delighted to have the chance to work with her as we bring the PEBCC community into a new era," said Tuan.

The feeling appears to be mutual, with a high level of professional respect by both Tuan and Butkevich.

"I am beyond honored to be joining this incredible community," exclaimed Butkevich. "For many years I've seen the incredible artistry, cultural connections, and commitment to fostering new, unheard voices through commissioning championed by PEBCC. I am so inspired by Eric's vision to further social justice and create inclusive spaces within the choirs, and by the collaborative culture within the staff and board teams.

"I look forward to partnering with them to build upon and fur-

ther this meaningful work now and into the future" she added.

Butkevich enjoys a deep familiarity with the children's and youth choral world. Most recently, she was Executive Director of the Oakland Youth Chorus for nine years. Before entering arts administration, she conducted with the Chicago Children's Choir, performed as a lyric soprano soloist for notable opera companies, and prepared children's choirs for outreach and mainstage productions. She holds degrees in music education and voice from the University of Wisconsin and San Jose State University, is certified as an Acting Specialist, and has a K-12 teaching credential.

For Butkevich, arts administration and arts education are closely interlinked.

"It all comes together, because art cannot live in isolation," she said.

Currently in its 39th season, Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir is dedicated to advancing the choral arts through education, performance, and collaboration at the highest artistic level, fostering individual development and international relationships. The choir's spirit can be found in its adventurous and broad-ranging commissioning program; its eagerness to collaborate within and across artistic disciplines; and its willingness to address contemporary social challenges in its music.

Piedmont East Bay Children's Choir looks forward to presenting their first virtual performance of the year at their Benefit Concert and Auction on Saturday, November 14 at 6:00 pm. There will be many opportunities for the full choir community to meet the new Executive Director in the coming weeks.

Orchard days take center stage at Filoli Gardens in October



It's harvest time at Filoli Gardens in Woodside. A wide variety of apples are now being harvested in the orchards at Filoli House and Gardens.

By Allyson Aleksey

Filoli House and Gardens in Woodside has reopened to the public and will be hosting its seasonal "Orchard Days" every weekend in October.

Every year, fruit trees at the Filoli gardens produce pears, apples, grapes, persimmons among the many fruits. Visitors are welcome to visit the orchard on Saturdays and Sundays starting October 3.

On these "Orchard Days," visitors can gain special access to the Gentlemen's Orchard where hundreds of heritage fruit trees grow.

There are many other fun fall features, including fall sweet treats from The Town Kitchen in the Orchard, with handmade pies, donuts, pumpkin bread, and caramel apples. Visitors can

take fall-inspired photo vignettes, created by the Filoli horticulture department. Kids will enjoy exploring a maze made of miniature hay bales.

Local Bay Area artists will be selling their unique work. The first weekend will feature illustrations by Liana Matson Vitousek, jewelry by Sasha Samuels, and the 3-dimensional works by members of the Orchard Valley Ceramics Arts Guild.

Reserve a requested day and time of admission online at <https://filoli.org/event/orchard-days/>. Orchard Days are included with general admission or member reservations.

The gardens and the estate trail, a 1-mile loop through the property's nature preserve, reopened in May.

"We have a desire to be a place

of respite and beauty and relaxation for our community in a time that we feel like everyone really needs it," said Filoli External Relations officer Susan O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan emphasized the importance of all visitors getting their tickets in advance and members making reservations to ensure avoiding contact and helping the staff maintain the daily attendance limit, currently set at 800 visitors.

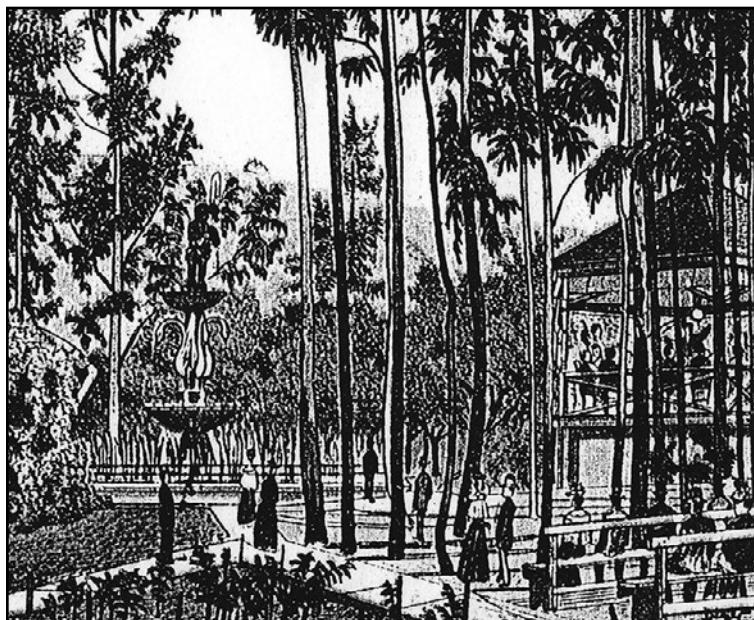
All visitors must wear face coverings, practice social distancing, and wash and sanitize hands frequently.

Admission is free to members and \$20 for adults; \$15 for seniors (65+); \$15 for students, teachers and military; \$10 for children (5-17 years old); free to children under 5 years old.

For more information, call 650-364-8300 or visit filoli.org.

HISTORY OF PIEDMONT

Cable Company attractions in Blair Park



The bandstand and fountain at the Blair Park entrance.

By Gail G. Lombardi

In a previous column, we described the Consolidated Piedmont Cable Company, its cable cars and famous gravity loop in Piedmont. The cable car line was expensive to build and expensive to maintain. To encourage more riders on the cable cars, the company leased the Blair Park land and built several popular amusements to draw more riders on their cable cars. The *Oakland Daily Evening Tribune* described the new "Attractions of Blair Park" on June 20, 1891. (Most of the illustrations here are from that article.) Today it's difficult to image that so many exciting attractions were squeezed into that narrow strip of land on Moraga Avenue.

The cable company thinned more trees and shrubs in the 75-acre park, paved the paths throughout the park and planted purple and white wisteria to grow



The Venetian Canal

Beautiful Bronze Fountain

A large 28-foot bronze fountain stood adjacent to the bandstand. The fountain represented the ascending orders of the animal kingdom. Water lilies filled the basin of the fountain. Four dolphins formed the fountain base, each spouting a stream of water into the basin below. Four swans formed the middle tier,

park, Blair Park now sold refreshments and boasted a restaurant.

Venetian Canal

The Venetian Canal was popular for old and young visitors alike. Opening in March of 1891, flat-bottomed boats floated in a meandering circular water flume, propelled by a large water wheel driven by an engine. The flume was 1000' long, elevated to a "considerable height," and ran over babbling brooks and across small ravines before returning to its start. Riders were given a small pole to ease the boats along when they became stuck.

Dancing Pavilion

Open on all sides with just a roof above, the Dancing Pavilion was designed as a cooler, more pleasant alternative to the stuffy indoor dancing clubs in downtown Oakland. It was open to the public during the day and could be leased for private parties in the evening. On those occasions the refreshment stand remained open. The 1891 *Tribune* claimed "...a large electric light in the center of the pavilion abundantly illuminates the structure." The pavilion was close to the bandstand so visitors could dance to the bandstand music.

The French Maze

Sometimes called the French Puzzle or the Mystic Maze, the French Maze challenged visitors in Blair Park. Designed after a maze in Paris, it was built with 6-foot tall lattice panels planted with Chinese honeysuckle vines. These panels formed 64 intersecting paths creating a bewildering journey to the center (and back). This maze was only 1600 feet long, but it could be as long as 7000 feet given the wrong turns that one could take. As late as 1954, there was a miniature Japanese pagoda in one of the backyards on Moraga Avenue that reportedly had been in the middle of the French Maze in Blair Park.

The Photo Gallery

No amusement park would be complete without a photo gallery. The gallery in Blair Park offered mementos by sketch artists in just 10 minutes of one's visit to the park. Visitors could also buy photographic souvenirs of Blair Park, such as this photo showing the lake in the park and the cemetery monuments beyond.

Japanese Tea House

Blair Park also had its own Japanese Tea House, an exact replica of an ancient tea house in Japan. It was constructed in Yokohama, then shipped in sections to Piedmont. Rebuilt on the site in the Japanese style, its fitted joints were tightly secured with ropes. Nails were used only to hold the roof tiles. It was



Dancing Pavilion.

over the large arched entrance. More purple and white wisteria grew near the bandstand. (Could this be the beginning of Piedmont's purple and white tradition?)

As visitors entered the park under this arch, they passed through lawns with benches in a semi-circle and came to a large bandstand, the first attraction the cable company built. Blair Park now offered free concerts each Saturday and Sunday afternoon performed by the 21-piece 5th Infantry Regiment Band and Ritzau's "Orchestra of Soloists." The concerts were free, but the cable company now charged an admission to the park. Small boys often tried to save the 10-cent admission charge by climbing over the cemetery fence.

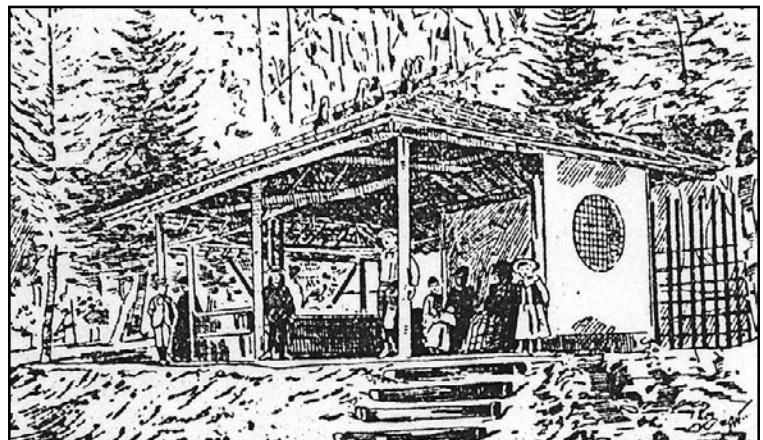
with each swan spraying water from its beak. At the top of the fountain a small child held a fish, which also spouted a stream of water 60 feet into the air.

Benches were scattered around Blair's small lake for rest and reflection. Following the path easterly from Blair's lake, visitors could climb to Inspiration Point. More benches were added for the weary, and the cool mountain spring continued to provide refreshment for these adventurers. The spectacular view of the Golden Gate always rewarded these hardy hikers. The *Oakland Tribune* reported that the cable company cleaned out the spring, increasing its flow to 80,000 gallons per day. This greater water supply kept the park green and ran its waterworks.

No longer just a picnicker's



This souvenir photo from Blair Park shows Blair's lake and the cemetery beyond.



Japanese Tea House

open on three sides with a circular Japanese window. Although the sketch shows ladies seated on chairs, operators originally planned to serve tea in the traditional Japanese manner – to guests sitting on straw mats or standing. There were also plans to bring in two Japanese maidens and their chaperone to serve tea in Oriental gowns. An adjacent Japanese garden was planted with 1000 Japanese lily bulbs.

A Family Park

Blair Park was planned as a family park. Park operators widely advertised that they maintained a comfortable park where ladies and children could attend without fear of encountering any "objectionable persons." No wine or liquor was sold in the park, and a deputy constable was present to keep any "toughs" out of the park. In addition to the Venetian Canal for children, there were swings and see-saws scattered throughout the park and a horse-driven merry-go-round. For a small fee, children could also ride donkeys or drive

goat carts along the park paths.

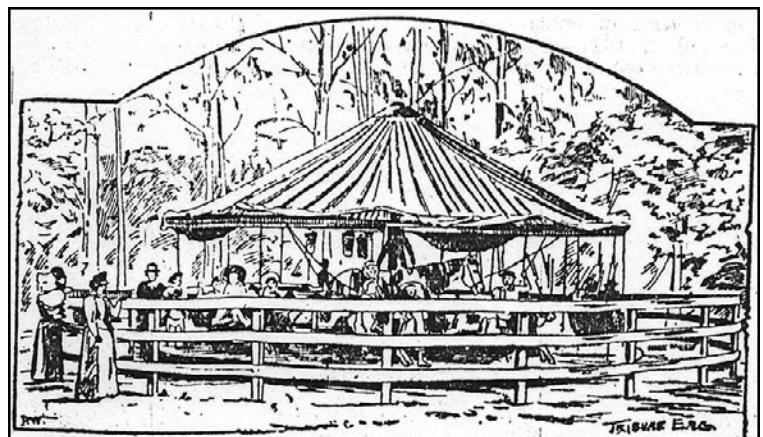
A Casino in the Park?

Future plans called for a casino, possibly three stories high, at the western end of the park. It was to have a large veranda on three sides with easy chairs and refreshments served inside. Trees and shrubs would be cleared to provide vistas of the bay. There is no evidence that the casino was ever built.

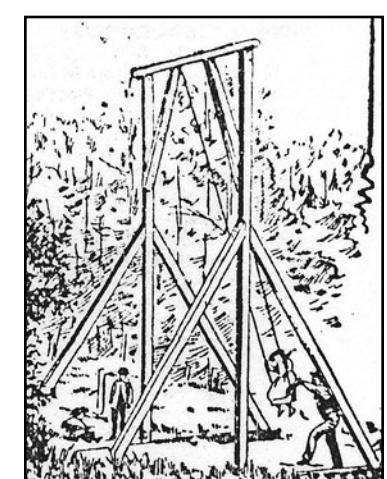
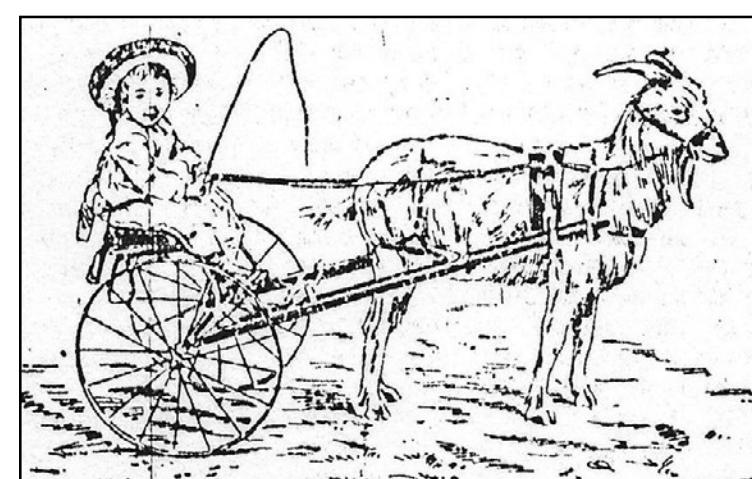
The next column on Piedmont's History will explore the balloon ascensions in Blair Park, and the fate of the park.

If you enjoy reading these biweekly columns on the history of Piedmont, consider becoming a member of the Piedmont Historical Society and receiving its annual newsletter. More information on Piedmont's history and membership is on the website, Piedmonthistorical.org, or contact Gail Lombardi at lombardg@pacbell.net.

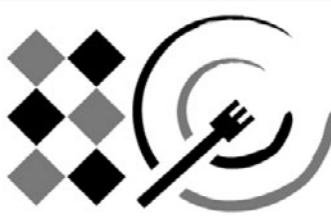
Originally published in the Post on July 25, 2018.



Above and Below: Horse-driven Merry-Go-Round, Swings, Goat Cart



FEATURES



Piedmont Pantry



Photo by Deborah Quok

A delicious, easy-to-make herbs and garlic cream cheese spread is the ideal filler with fresh veggies and a sliced rye baguette.

Fresh Herbs and Garlic Cream Cheese Spread

By Deborah Quok

High impact with minimal effort – there's much to love about this easy, homemade cheese spread. It's always a crowd pleaser, slathered on sliced baguette, crackers or a variety of

vegetables. Best of all, it takes only a few minutes of chopping and mixing from start to finish.

The instructions say to refrigerate it for a couple of hours before serving to allow for the flavors to fully develop. Truth be told, it's perfectly delicious as

soon as it's made – as you will notice when cleaning up the bowl.

Cream cheese is a refrigerator staple in many homes, including ours. Here we're fond of cream cheese and smoked salmon on a bagel or toast. An unopened package of cream cheese will last several months in the 'fridge. So why not keep it on hand?

I have a small herb garden, in pots, in our back yard. It's easy-peasy for me to head out and snip away as needed. Bits and pieces from your garden or refrigerator are fine here.

This recipe is flexible. Mix and match the herbs to suit your taste or availability at hand. Try using other soft, spreadable cheeses such as fromage blanc, chèvre, or ricotta.

And it can be scaled up or down to suit your needs. Make only a fraction of the recipe to use up a bit of cream cheese you have, or multiply it for a crowd. Soon you will be whipping up your own versions on instinct, with no recipe required.

Bonus: This cheese spread is also delicious on pasta. Boil pasta to desired texture. Drain, reserving at least 1/2 cup of the boiling liquid. Add cheese spread to taste and mix until evenly distributed. A few splashes of the reserved pasta water will help loosen up the sauce and make for a luscious coating on the pasta. Serve with a generous scattering of grated Parmesan cheese and flourish of more fresh herbs.

See Piedmont Pantry on [page 29](#)



Retaining Wall Construction in Piedmont



Hillside Garage Rebuild in Piedmont



JIM GARDNER CONSTRUCTION INC.

Foundations & Drainage • Basement Additions
Design-Build Remodeling • Structural Repair

To request a free estimate, please visit our website,
www.jimgardnerconstruction.com

510.655.3409

Lic. #444635 • Since 1983



Dear Abby

A pet column compiled by Piedmont pets



Big pet contest at Salvation Army gala on Oct. 10

By Abby, a Bernese Mountain Dog

Dear Abby:

As a special thank you to those who donate \$25 or more to the Salvation Army Way Out Virtual Gala, we have created a Pet Photo Contest. The lucky winner will be announced during the gala on October 10th and will receive lots of bragging rights along with a \$100 Petco gift card. The winner does not need to be present to win.

Be sure to enter your adorable dog, cat, rabbit, marmot, guinea pig, parakeet or gold fish by October 5th.

Here's the link to the Pet Photo Contest: <https://deloro-salvationarmy.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/2020TheWayOut-Gala/PETPHOTOCODE/Tabid/1183401/Default.aspx>

And on a local note, the Salvation Army Gala is being chaired by Piedmont's Debbie Kelley and three talented friends.

Happy Paws.

-From Major, at The East Bay Salvation Army

Dear Major:

We will definitely enter! Nice that \$25 goes to such a good cause like helping the Salvation Army help the homeless. And we get a chance to win \$100, too?

Still, my silly owner isn't sure what pic to choose; she says there are so many good ones. Maybe the shot during Halloween morning at Bushy Dell

Creek where I was dressed as an endangered rhino? Or that crazy day when they dressed me up as a bride complete with blonde wig to marry Percy the Golden Retriever... (The wedding was beautiful.)

Or perhaps the latest with my new dog mask?

This could be ruff. Maybe you should pick more than one winner?

Not bragging (well, kind of),
-Abby

Dear Abby:

What is the best diet to relieve diarrhea?

Do I have to go the Vet? I'm losing my appetite.

*My stomach is surly,
-Bennet and Bernie the Old English Sheep Dog*

Dear Bennet and Bernie:

Well, you can never go wrong visiting the Vet, however a diet of boiled chicken (preferably white meat) and rice, along with a little canned pumpkin swirled in (helps things congeal) and a touch of chicken broth often seems to settle things down.

But if the diarrhea persists, you definitely need to get checked and see if antibiotics are necessary. Sometimes we just eat the wrong things off the sidewalk.

Grrr ugh,
-Abby

Send your dog thoughts on any pet topic to Melanie Johnston at Melandoogs@gmail.com.

Custom Picture Framing in Oakland's Montclair Village

Locally Owned Since 1973

Sabrina Santoyo & Tom Brodehl
Co-owners



2082 Antioch Court
Montclair Village • 339-0890
www.ArtLoftFraming.com
(3 doors south of Peet's Coffee)



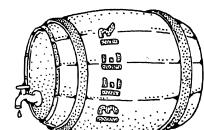
Wood Windows Warehouse

Wood Windows Warehouse
Residential & Commercial
Custom & Standard
CA Contractors License No. 823258

(510) 652-1662

(510) 652-1662 Office
(510) 652-1690 Fax
info@woodwindowswarehouse.com
woodwindowswarehouse.com
1301 66th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608

The Beer Barrel



Celebrating the beers of Belgium

By Pierre DuMont

Being a wine man, I don't often dabble in beer. I usually reserve beer for a hot afternoon when I'm washing the car – the colder and lighter, the better. So, I was taken aback a couple of years ago when I had a totally different beer experience. I was out to dinner with good friends at A Cote' on College Avenue. As we contemplated aperitifs, the waiter said, "May I suggest a Delirium Tremens?" The name sent a shiver up my spine and spurred mental images of a homeless alcoholic clutching a brown bag. But always a sucker for something new, I figured why not? Moments later a deep golden ale with a perfect creamy head arrived in a round glass goblet painted with pink elephants and the name delirium tremens. The nose had the type of complexity usually reserved for fine claret. The taste was rich and hearty but balanced and not heavy. The finish seemed to go on forever.

It was simply the best beer I had ever had in my life.

Fast forward one year. I was in Belgium on vacation, so I decided to find out just what is so special about Belgian beer. I had heard for years that Belgian beers were the world's finest but had not really paid much attention. So, my wife and I dove into this serious research project to sample as many styles of Belgian beers as possible and make a list of our favorites.

The tiny country of Belgium has more than 300 breweries – more than France and Germany combined. There is a tradition of brewing here that is ancient,

varied and strong. It is indisputably the world capital of beer. The heart of the beer scene is the ancient tradition of Abbey ales and Trappist Ales.

There are only six Trappist breweries in the world – all in Belgium. These still active, worshiping, praying monastic communities provide income for themselves by brewing beer. They are Achel, Chimay, Orval, Rochefort, Westmalle, and Westvleteren. No other breweries are allowed by law to call themselves Trappist. They are all top-fermenting, very strong bottle conditioned ales. (In other words, they actually age and get better in the bottle, like wine.) They range from being widely available like Chimay and Orval, to Westvleteren, which is sold only at the monastery with a two-case limit. The monks brew it only once a month or when they need some money.

Abbey ale is a term associated with beer brewed by non-monastic types, frequently under a license. They often mimic the style of Trappist beers with a regular ale, a double ale and a triple ale at increasing levels of alcohol.

Another really outstanding category of Belgian beer is the golden ale. These beers have high alcohol, usually around 9%, and are similar to abbey style triple but there are differences. Triples are frequently cloudy, while golden ales are clear and a touch lighter in body. They are complex and yet refreshing.

After tasting our way through a boatload of Belgian beers, the following showed themselves to be the cream of the crop.

PIEDMONT POST

The Top Five Beers of Belgium



• Delirium Tremens

A golden ale. Enchanting floral nose, rich full body, light but long finish. Perfect balance 9% alc.

• Westmalle Triple

My favorite Trappist and the biggest beer I tasted. A huge heavy, almost sweet mouthful. Not a beer to chug but to contemplate. 9.5% alc.



• Hoegaarden Weissbier

Totally opposite of Westmalle. This Weiss bier was light, refreshing, almost lemony. The only one of these beers which could be called a thirst quencher. 4.9% alc.



• Rodenbach

This is in the category of "red-beer" and that's exactly its color. It is very tart and refreshing yet with plenty of weight and body. 5% alc.



• Duvel

Similar to Delirium Tremens, a golden ale. Also very complex with a good medium weight. 8.5% alc.

Piedmont Avenue Library News



Piedmont Ave. Library offering sidewalk service

Tool Lending library available at Temescal Branch

The Piedmont Avenue Branch of Oakland Public Library is now offering sidewalk service from Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To pick up books, DVDs, CDs and WiFi hotspots, go to <https://oaklandlibrary.org/services/cards-and-visiting/sidewalk-pick-up-oakland-public-library> and place a hold on the item(s) you want to pick up. Wait for a notice that your choices are ready. Waiting times for holds may be longer than usual.

You will receive a notification for each item you have on hold, and your items may not all be ready on the same day. You will have 14 days after you receive your notification to pick up the items.

When your items are ready, go to the library Tuesday-Saturday, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Wear a mask and bring your library card or card number and a cell phone that can send and receive texts. When you arrive at the branch, you'll see instructions to text your first and last name to a posted phone number. Text your name and follow the prompts.

Staff will bring your items to the entrance and give them to you with no contact.

If you have questions, or to apply for a library card, call 510-238-3134 or email: answers@oaklandlibrary.org.

Staff Changes

Margaret Rodriguez, the former Children's Librarian, has accepted a full-time position at the Asian Branch Library, on 9th Street in Oakland. She was at the Piedmont Ave. Branch library for four years. We will miss her kindness and patience, and her monthly "field trips" to Piedmont Gardens with parents and toddlers in tow, now impossible because of COVID 19.

Russell Tran, a Library Assistant, also will join her full-time at the Asian Branch. We will miss Russell's calm and friendly manner and his technical expertise. The Chinatown neighborhood will benefit from his language skills as well.

There are new faces on the team now, working on temporary assignment at the library through December: Emily Odza and Paul Overton. They join familiar faces Nikki Truong and Paulette Forte, who have permanent assignments in our branch.

Emily's regular assignment is half-time at the Eastmont Branch, Adult/Youth Librarian. She joined Oakland Public Library in 2010 and has worked at nearly all the branches since then, including Piedmont. She has enjoyed the community at the Piedmont Ave. Branch and is happy to be back for the fall walk-up service.

Paul Overton, Library Aide, is a new employee.

Tool Lending Library

You can rent hundreds of different tools for one week at a time from the Oakland Tool Lending Library, located in the Temescal Branch at 5205 Telegraph Avenue (<http://fotll.org/>).

Items available include gardening and digging tools, carpentry and woodworking tools, plumbing tools, concrete and masonry tools, and several other categories. To give an idea of the breadth of the 3,500 tools available, there are 10 different kinds of hammers. A complete list, including power tools, is at [www.oaklandlibrary.org/tools](http://oaklandlibrary.org/tools).

The Tool Lending Library is in the basement of the Temescal Branch. It is staffed by library employees and is funded by the City of Oakland and property taxes from Measure Q. Its 20-year history is available online (<http://fotll.org/history>).

In order to place a hold on items to rent, call the Oakland Tool Lending Library at 510-597-5089 Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sidewalk pickup at the library is available on those same days and hours.

Information from the HOOT, the newsletter of Friends of Piedmont Ave. Library. Is available online at friendsofpal.com.

Advertise Here!

With the...
Piedmont Post

For more information on placing an ad call...

626-2468

or email: nancy@cmc-ads.com

**READ IT IN
THE POST**

HARRY CLARK
PLUMBING AND HEATING INC
Since 1946

**Furnaces for Every Home
and Every Budget**



TG9
95.5% AFUE Efficient
Single Speed

TGLS
80% AFUE Efficient
- Single Speed

Up to 98% AFUE
Efficient Modulating



First 10 callers receive
free air cleaning system
with every furnace installation

Call for Surprisingly Low Prices

FREE ESTIMATES

510-444-1776

www.hcplumbing.com

YORK®
INSTALL CONFIDENCE

SENIORS

Does bone health really matter?

By Tim Johnson

When I think of the word "skeleton" I often imagine something creepy - like a Halloween decoration eerily perched on someone's front porch. Why am I thinking about skeletons a full month before Halloween? The Lake Merritt - Independent Senior Living is hosting a free educational webinar next month about bone health and I realized this is a topic I do not know a lot about.

So, I decided to do a little research.

Did you know our human skeleton is an active organ? It's made up of tissue and cells in a continual state of activity throughout a lifetime. Just like any other organ or tissue, bones need to be maintained. Not only do our bones support us and allow us to move, but they also protect our brain, heart, and other organs from injury. Our bones also store minerals such as calcium and phosphorus and release them into the body when we need them for other uses.

Every day our body breaks down old bone and puts new bone in its place. As we get older it is normal to lose some bone. Many people have weak bones and don't even know it. That's because bone loss often happens over a long period of time and doesn't hurt.

For many people, a broken bone is the first sign that they have osteoporosis, a condition in which bones weaken and become porous. People with osteoporosis most often break bones in the wrist, spine, and hip.

The good news is that it is never too late to take care of your bones.

According to the National Institute of Health's Osteoporosis National Resource Center, there are lots of things you can do to keep your bones healthy and strong. Eating foods rich in calcium and vitamin D, getting plenty of exercise and leading a healthy lifestyle all contribute to your bone "bank account" in a positive way.



A Lake Merritt Senior Living resident staying healthy.

There are certain risk factors you can control that can help promote healthy bones. These include a healthy diet and physical activity, as I mentioned before. Body weight is a risk factor because being too thin can lead to osteoporosis. Smoking cigarettes can keep your body from using the calcium in your diet. People who drink a lot of alcohol are more likely to get osteoporosis. In July of this year, Dr. Timothy Bhattacharyya, a researcher with the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, released the results of a 40-year study that found an association between lowered rates of hip fractures and decreases in smoking and heavy drinking.

Plus, there are the risk factors you can't control that can predispose one to osteoporosis such as age, gender, ethnicity and family history.

If I have confused you or caused any undue worry, please join us on Thursday, October 22 at 11:00 a.m. for a free Zoom program, *Freedom From Fractures*. The national organization, American Bone Health, will lead our presentation and teach us how to build and keep strong and healthy bones for life with practical and up-to-date resources. The program will help you better understand more about your skeleton, so you can know your risk and do something about it.

To reserve your space, RSVP by calling The Lake Merritt - Independent Senior Living at 510-903-3600.

Tim Johnson is Executive Director of The Lake Merritt - Independent Senior Living, 1800 Madison Street, Oakland. Call 510-903-3600 or visit www.thelakemerritt.com.



Acclaimed artists Margo Hall (left), Ely Sonny Orquiza and Donna Washington are three of the incredible instructors featured in the Fall 2020 Performing Arts Institute.

Stagebridge digital session highlights voices in theater, storytelling

On September 28, Stagebridge returns for a 12-week digital session showcasing pillars of the San Francisco Bay Area theater and storytelling communities leading into the fall.

After successfully shifting to an online format and providing digital conferencing training sessions for older adults, Stagebridge's hallmark program – the Performing Arts Institute, or PAI – welcomes Margo Hall, Donna Washington and many new faces offering vital workshops for potential students.

"In alignment with our solidarity statement, we are focusing on expanding the vibrancy and breadth of our classes," said PAI program director Lily Nguyen. "This is a chance for our students to grow while we simultaneously uplift BIPOC voices in our organization and curriculum."

The session also includes several new offerings from nationally and internationally recognized writers and storytellers, including *Black Narratives on Stage and Screen* with Kim Euell, *The Basics and Dynam-*

ics of Effective Storytelling with Masankho Banda, *3-D Storytelling Model* with Kirk Waller, and *Crafting Stories for Life* with Donna Washington.

The combination of new and returning classes provides an encouraging and supportive creative space for aspiring older artists to learn and to heal inside of an ever-expanding community. In addition, some of our favorite teachers, Ely Sonny Orquiza and MK Chavez, will be returning.

"The shift to digital is exciting because we're entering a new frontier in our organization's history while our nation is facing a reckoning around inclusion and equity," said Stagebridge Executive Director Shannon McDonnell. "We are boldly directing our programs into the future by ensuring that the diversity of our content truly reflects the needs of our community."

Students will be able to add classes up until October 9, so there's plenty of room for everyone.

To learn more about the Performing Arts Institute, visit <https://www.stagebridge.org/pai>.

READ IT IN THE POST

Piedmont Pickleball Schedule

Pickleball is once again active in Piedmont with the reopening of the courts at Piedmont Middle School, 740 Magnolia Avenue. The courts are located below the school, and are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday.

For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 420-3070.

You know

where her glasses are when she misplaces them, how much she hates taking medicine, and her passion for cookies.

We'll know that, too.



WE PROVIDE:

- Excellent in-home care
- Quality caregiver training
- Errands and transportation

Start home care today.

CarePiedmont.com

510.835.9362

3820 Broadway, Oakland

Homewatch CareGivers®



Owners: Leah and Benjamin Bloom
Piedmont High Class of '03

Law Offices of Daniel Leahy

TRUST AND ESTATE LITIGATION



Daniel Leahy, PHS and Boalt Hall graduate

FOR A CONSULTATION, PLEASE CALL

510.985.4151

1970 BROADWAY, SUITE 1200, OAKLAND, CA

DANIEL@LEAHY-LAW.COM WWW.LEAHY-LAW.COM



The Mac Mama

Breaking through tech speak with common language

By Cookie Segelstein

Computer tips and helpful suggestions, especially for people who are not entirely comfortable using their computers.

Dear MacMama:

I am 73 years old, and I need a new computer. I am an artist and use the Adobe Creative Suite, so I called Apple, and spoke with a salesperson there. I told him what I use the computer for, and he recommended a system, which I showed to my daughter. My daughter was surprised, since in her opinion, what was recommended to me did not have enough RAM, processing speed or even storage. I got the feeling that the salesperson assumed, that since I am a senior, my needs were simple. Am I reading this situation wrong, or is this something that happens often? Is this a case of age discrimination?

-Lissa, Oakland

Dear Lissa:

You have just brought up a very sore subject for me. I also don't want to jump to conclusions, but you could be right. I have found many cases of what I would call ageism in the tech world. I have heard from clients who were treated as if they were boneheaded when visiting computer stores. I have also had several clients who proudly showed

off their purchases, only to find that the system they purchased, like yours, did not have enough storage, RAM or a fast-enough processor for what they want to do.

I remember a client, who was a retired and quite brilliant physicist, who was almost brought to tears at the way he was treated when asking for help with an issue at one of the local Apple stores. First, he was ignored for a long time, and when he was finally helped, the salesperson got frustrated with the fact that he did not quite understand her proposed solution, which she rattled off quickly, and in tech speak.

Another client, a retired UC Berkeley science professor recovering from a stroke, made an appointment at the same Apple store, and explained to the tech that she could understand him if he spoke slowly. The technician told her that he only had a small window of time, since there were many people in the queue, so she might have to make an appointment at a time where they were less busy.

These incidents don't represent the majority of experiences at the Apple stores, or Apple online. I have had lovely tech and sales representatives that were patient and well trained in customer relations. And when these incidents happened at the same store, I went to that store

and spoke with one of the managers, who admitted that some of the employees did not take customer relations seriously enough. I reminded her that everyone that walks into the store, no matter their age, technical prowess, or skill at communicating problems must be treated with respect and kindness.

Ageism is real, I have experienced it myself.

So here is the bottom line. If you are in the market for a new computer, make note of what you will be doing. If you will only be surfing the web, and writing emails, you don't need a lot of storage and processing power. But if you are an artist, musician, edit photos and movies, or have a lot of photos, make sure to let the salesperson know.

Don't purchase the recommended setup until you check with someone who is a bit more experienced with all of the details of the specs of the possibilities. You can even call and speak to another representative, or another salesperson in the store. And if you feel you are not being listened to, or taken seriously, speak up. The more we speak out, the more the issue is made public, the more opportunity our younger salespeople will have to be educated.

If you need more guidance, contact me. I am doing all of my support appointments remotely these days!

Cookie Segelstein is the MacMama, an Apple Certified Service Professional that provides Apple computer consultation and trouble-shooting in your home and office. For more information, call 510-520-7760, email cookie@themacmama.com, or visit her website at www.themacmama.com

George Mark Children's House hosts Online Auction October 1-3

George Mark Children's House (GMCH), the first free-standing pediatric palliative care center in the United States, will host an "Eventful NonEvent" and an online-only auction to replace its annual Autumn Celebration event to raise funds for its essential pediatric palliative care services.

"We are enormously disappointed to not be hosting our traditional Autumn Celebration at George Mark Children's House this year," stated George Mark Children's House Founder and Piedmont resident Dr. Kathy Hull. "With the pandemic our popular in-person event is not possible. The wonderful enthusiasm and energy of our community will be missed. The support we raise from this event is crucial to the continuity of the exceptional care we provide to our patients and families."

To replace funds raised by the in-person event, GMCH has initiated two fundraising strategies:

GMCH has announced an "Eventful NonEvent," which is not the usual in-person event, rather a fundraising campaign seeking support from the community. As an added incentive to support the campaign, GMCH has collected a \$100,000 Matching Gift Challenge, so every dollar donated will be matched up to \$100,000. For more information see: <https://georgemark.salsalabs.org/auction2020/>

abs.org/autumncelebration2020/index.html

GMCH will also hold an online auction from Thursday to Saturday, October 1-3, with unforgettable experiences and adventures to tempt active bidding. Auction packages include:

- One week at a spectacular private Bali estate with a full-service staff included
- Memphis backyard BBQ concert with Grammy-nominated country music artist Philip Claypool for up to twenty persons
- Four night Carmel getaway with golf at some of the area's finest courses
- Catered dinner for twenty-five guests and performance by Beach Blanket Babylon star Renée Lubin in the winning bidder's home
- VIP wine country tour, tasting and lunch for ten with transportation

For more details on the auction: <https://georgemark.org/auction2020/>

George Mark Children's House

George Mark Children's House (GMCH) is the first pediatric palliative care center in the United States. The 15,000 square foot medical facility in San Leandro, California, provides life affirming care for children with illnesses that modern health care cannot yet cure,

or for those who have complex medical conditions. GMCH bridges the gap between hospital and home, offering safe, excellent medical care in the comfort and warmth of a home-like setting for patients who do not need the resources of a full children's hospital. Families never see a bill for its services. The facility sits on an impeccably landscaped five-acre lot.

George Mark Children's House offers three types of care:

Transitional Care for children who have usually been in an acute care hospital setting and still need medical care, but not of an acute nature, before they transition to being cared for at home;

End-of-Life Care, where a patient's family can stay in its own family suite and surround their child with love and support;

Respite Care, where patients receive high quality medical care and appropriate activities while offering parents and families a short break from nonstop care at home.

George Mark Children's House serves as a model for other pediatric palliative care centers, having been recognized for its excellence in providing all-encompassing care when a family's need is at its greatest.

For more information please see the video: <https://tinyurl.com/GeorgeMarkPromo>.

Wednesday Evening Meditation Group is online

The Wednesday Evening Piedmont Meditation Group has moved online using Zoom web conferencing during the Covid-19 shelter-in-place order. The group meets every Wednesday evening from 7:30-8:15 p.m., and everyone age 12 and older is welcome. No experience meditating is necessary. This is a secular (non-religious) group, and there is no lecture, solicitation or obligation.

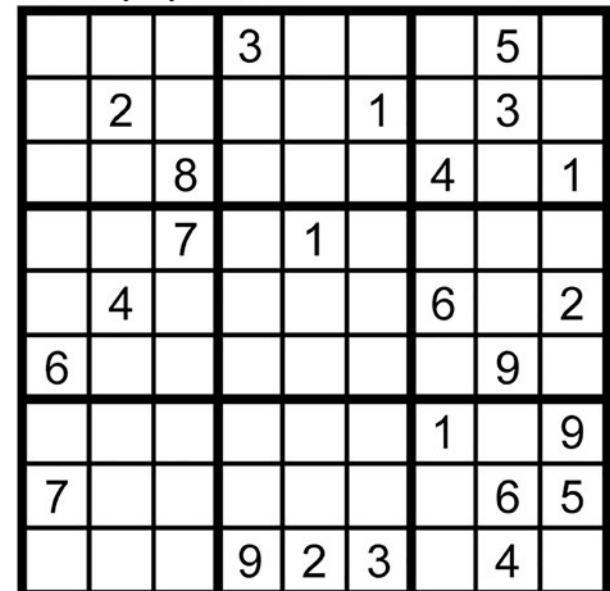
Mark Herrick, a long-time Piedmont resident, is host of the weekly meditations. "With the high stress and anxiety of the shelter-in-place order, it's easy to get cut-off and isolated from each other. It's helpful to have a place to connect with people sharing a bit of quiet, peaceful time to rest and recharge," Herrick said.

For more information contact him at: herrickmark@icloud.com or (415) 706-2000.

Sudoku Puzzle

Sudoku by Myles Mellor

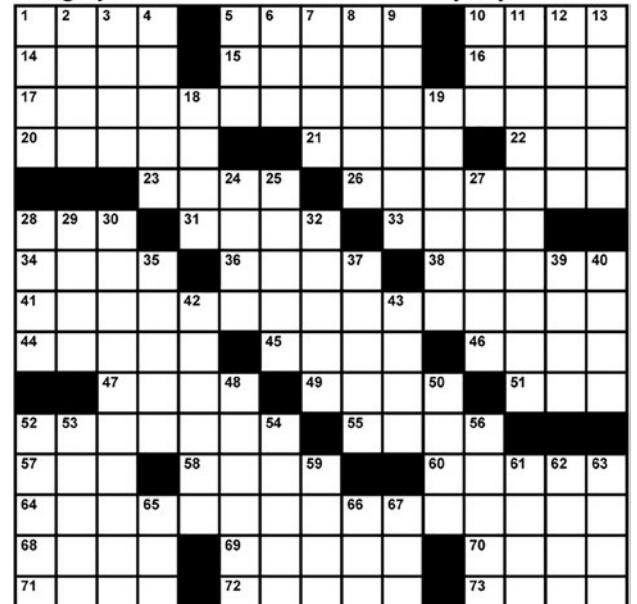
Medium



Crossword Puzzle

Weighty Matters

by Myles Mellor



ACROSS

1. Expert
5. Catch, in a way
10. Center of authority
14. Cuckoos
15. Impede
16. Bridge toll unit
17. Easy to pick up
20. Baffled
21. One of the Simpsons
22. Supply with ammo
23. Marriage, for one?
24. Raw liquors
25. "China Beach" setting
26. Capture
27. Lagerlöf's "The Wonderful Adventures of ___"
28. "Right away!"
29. Applications
30. Hotel posting
31. Ghost whisperer?
32. Money in the bank, say
33. "How ___ Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life" (Kaavya Viswanathan novel)
34. "My ___!"
35. Jupiter, e.g.
36. Fixes, in a way
37. "Confessions" singer
38. "Cookie Monster cohort
39. Call to a mate
40. 1914 battle line
41. Big Bertha's birthplace
42. Combine
43. "Sword lilies, for short
44. "End" (London)
45. Karate moves
46. Sadly
47. Fill
48. "Astronaut's org."
49. "Warms up"
50. "Turned sideways"
51. "100 cents"
52. "Small house, in London"
53. "End"
54. "Warms up"
55. "Turned sideways"
56. "100 cents"
57. "Small house, in London"
58. "End"
59. "Warms up"
60. "Turned sideways"
61. "100 cents"
62. "Small house, in London"
63. "End"
64. "Warms up"
65. "Turned sideways"
66. "100 cents"
67. "Small house, in London"
68. "End"
69. "Warms up"
70. "Turned sideways"
71. "100 cents"
72. "Small house, in London"
73. "End"

DOWN

1. Apple variety
2. Condo, e.g.
3. Fixes, in a way
4. "Confessions" singer
5. Grassland
6. Balaam's mount
7. Attempt
8. As yet
9. Genetic material
10. Took a load off
11. Extreme fatigue
12. Notify
13. College units
14. Detective, at times
15. Clothing
16. Drawn tight
17. Arise
18. Sword lilies, for short
19. Astronaut's org.
20. Deadly biters
21. Small house, in London
22. London
23. End
24. Warm-ups
25. Turned sideways
26. 100 cents
27. Old World duck
28. Bologna home
29. Bog
30. Chinese fruit tree
31. "That hurt!"
32. Full of gossip
33. Son of Simon the Just
34. Noblemen
35. Bundle
36. Minus
37. Diamond Head locale
38. Some Olympians, nowadays
39. Eye affliction
40. "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
41. Go for the gold
42. Appetite

See Crossword and Sudoku Puzzle Solutions on page 30.

REAL ESTATE

ADVERTISE IN *THE POST*

G | The GRUBB Co.

231 PARK VIEW AVENUE, PIEDMONT



► CALL FOR INFORMATION ◄

Light-filled 3BR/1.5BA home on a beloved street. Charming 1920's character with tasteful updates. Spacious kitchen opens to landscaped yard with brick patio, herb garden, and bountiful lemon and apple trees. Finished BONUS room on lower level ideal for home office or theatre room. Attached garage and ample storage. Moments to the Grand Lake Farmer's Market, parks & Piedmont schools. A special property not to be missed! 231Parkview.com
3BR • 1.5BA • \$1,395,000



Lisa Chan Carnazzo
CalDRE #02105843
C: 415.336.8914
Lisa@grubbco.com
Grubbco.com

Carrie McAlister
CalDRE #01464959
C: 510.292.7838
Carrie@grubbco.com
CarrieMcAlister.com

G | The GRUBB Co.

63 BAY FOREST DRIVE, OAKLAND



► CALL FOR INFORMATION ◄

At the peak of a cul de sac, this property enjoys sweeping Bay views and the peaceful, quiet community in the verdant hills. Level entry plus interior access from the two-car garage. The living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen and media/family room open to an expansive view deck. This home offers splendid condition and efficiency for the perfect retreat and easy living. Don't miss the wine cellar!

4+BR • 2.5BA • \$1,495,000

Alexis Thompson
CalDRE #01849227
O: 510.652.2133/419 | C: 510.861.0706
Athompson@grubbco.com

Bebe McRae
CalDRE #00875159
O: 510.652.2133/415 | C: 510.928.3912
Bmcrae@grubbco.com | BebeMcRae.com

A NEIGHBORHOOD
for
EVERY LIFESTYLE

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS



The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

OAKLAND | PIEDMONT | BERKELEY

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

1960 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD | OAKLAND
3070 CLAREMONT AVENUE | BERKELEY
100 GRAND AVENUE #112 | OAKLAND

READ IT IN *THE POST*



Golden
Gate

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

GOLDEN GATE SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

The premier Bay Area brokerage representing the finest luxury homes in the San Francisco Bay Area

Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty agents showcase your home's highest value to the widest audience, providing luxury service at all price points. **Our clients never settle for less.**

GoldenGateSIR.com

Berkeley Office
Two Tunnel Road | Berkeley, CA 94705
510.542.2600

North Berkeley Office
1995 El Dorado Avenue | Berkeley, CA 94707
510.833.2601

Montclair-Piedmont Office
1986 Mountain Boulevard | Oakland, CA 94611
510.339.4000

G | The GRUBB Co.

131 BONITA AVENUE, PIEDMONT



► CALL FOR INFORMATION ◀

Perfectly positioned on Piedmont's most beautiful street, 131 Bonita is the ultimate combination of old-world craftsmanship, modern amenities and exceptional curated design. Refined yet relaxed, the thoughtful updates blend beautifully throughout the classic four bedroom (up), two++ bath extremely livable three-level floor plan. Fabulous Denise Bates designed outdoor living and entertaining spaces offer a welcome oasis for family and friends. Truly a legacy home to retreat, gather and celebrate every day.

4BR • 2++BA • \$2,795,000

131Bonita.com

Jane Strauch

CalBRE #01474232

O: 510.339.0400/279 | C: 510.388.6841

Jstrauch@grubbc.com | JaneStrauch.com



ADVERTISE IN THE POST

Pamela Fullerton's Recent Sales



2 Glen Alpine Road, Piedmont
Offered at \$5,750,000



99 Inverleith Terrace, Piedmont
Offered at \$3,795,000



130 Somerset Road, Piedmont
Offered at 3,250,000



345 Scenic Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$1,850,000



13631 Campus Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$2,350,000



3901 Oakmore Road, Oakland
Offered at \$1,389,000



75 Rio Vista Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$995,000



5733 Colton Boulevard, Oakland
Offered at \$799,000



3800 High Street, Oakland
Offered at \$779,000



1247 Gabriel Court, San Leandro
Offered at \$675,000



1010 Las Ovejas, San Rafael
Offered at \$1,695,000



Pamela Strike Fullerton

Realtor / Lawyer / Top Agent 2019

pamelastrikefullerton.com

510.506.9197 mobile

DRE# 01987942

How to reach City officials

Elected and appointed officials in Piedmont are directly available to residents by phone and by e-mail.

Piedmont City Council

Bob McBain, *Mayor*

420-3048

rmcbain@piedmont.ca.gov

420-3048

tking@piedmont.ca.gov

239-7663

trood@piedmont.ca.gov

420-3048

jcavenaugh@piedmont.ca.gov

604-9864

bandersen@piedmont.ca.gov

CITY COMMISSIONS

Park Commission

Patty Dunlap, *Chair*

367-0762

Betsy Goodman

547-2063

Amber Brumfiel

612-0752

Jim Horner

654-8836

Brian Mahany

594-9079

Eileen Ruby

919-6654

Robin Wu

450-0412

Planning Commission

Allison Allessio, *Chair*

415-385-3608

Jonathan Levine

655-8859

Tom Ramsey

593-6612

Yildiz Duransoy

703-403-1617

Rani Batra

421-3220

Douglas Strout (*Alternate*)

428-1296

Public Safety Committee

Lynne Wright, *Chair*

879-7078

Lori Elefant

428-1757

Jeffrey Horner

547-0233

Chris Houlder

415-298-6880

Garrett Keating

601-5180

Shanti Brien

925-984-8980

Recreation Commission

Steve Roland, *Chair*

601-8458

Jeffrey Dorman

985-1203

Vincent Fisher

760-805-4057

Conna McCarthy

333-9148

Dick Carter

367-9449

CITY COMMITTEES

Budget Advisory and Financial Planning Committee

Bill Hosler, *Chair*

595-9005

Cathie Geddeis

290-3494

Deborah Leland

325-6235

Christina Paul

219-1670

Maya Rath

652-6277

Frank Ryan

652-7245

Chris Kwei (*Alternate*)

703-9886

Civic Improvement Projects (CIP) Review Committee

John Lenahan, *Chair*

893-0122

Sue Herrick

530-6047

Bobbe Stehr

653-7627

Michael Henn

834-7128

Liaisons:

Patty Siskind (*Piedmont Beautification Foundation*)

Jim Horner (*Park Commission*)

Conna McCarthy (*Recreation Commission*)

Civil Service Commission

Michael Reese

206-7956

Sandra Rappaport

386-6288

Scott Lawson

325-7675

Claudia Harrison

336-3656

David Hobstetter

415-309-9884

Mosquito Abatement District

Robert Dickinson

658-3464

Parking Hearing Officer

Susan Ode

420-3040

Susan Kawaichi

654-3292

Police and Fire Pension Board

Robert McBain, *Mayor*

420-3048

Teddy Gray King, *Vice Mayor*

420-3048

Andrew Wendel

415-531-8095

Catherine Carr, *Police Rep.*

420-3000

Brian Gidney, *Fire Rep.*

420-3030

Advertise Here!

With the...

Piedmont Post

For more information on placing an ad call...

626-2468

or email: nancy@cmc-ads.com

The Climate Diaries

A knock on the front door

By Chris Honore'

I look out my window across the valley floor, toward the forested hills and the familiar uneven ridgeline in the distance. What I see instead, what obscures everything, is a haze of dense, toxic smoke, grainy-gray and tulle fog white that glows a surreal copper orange and red at sunset.

I live in Ashland, Oregon, not the Bay Area. For the last six months our days been defined by a stalking, harrowing virus, haunted daily by the relentless rise in cases and the tolling, hollow sound of grief as a thousand people die a suffocating death daily, their unmoving hands held by strangers who stand close and bear witness.

And suddenly, abruptly, we are once again reminded that there is another existential crisis stalking us – a reality for which there is no vaccine. It's called global warming. Our planet is metaphorically and literally simmering, a green-blue-white pot on a stove. By all evidence offered, we seem unable or unwilling to lower the flame. For those of us of the west coast of America, this crisis has grimly returned. Forests, grasslands, towns, neighborhoods burn, and the predicted future – one foretold in dystopian science fiction, or couched in the language of denial – is once again with us.

On Tuesday three weeks ago. I was standing in the kitchen, and had heard sirens, two, maybe three, rising and falling, then fading. It was a beautiful day, cloudless, still too warm, the brittle green-brown hills baked.

Suddenly I heard someone knocking on our front door. It wasn't a "can I borrow a cup of sugar" knock; it was an urgent, come quickly knock. I opened the door and saw my neighbor standing there, already turning to leave. "There's a fire," she said, and pointed north. "We're evacuating." I looked at her and asked, "To where?" That's all I could think of asking. Her answer was lost in the moment as she hurried away.

I was stunned. A fire. What fire? I called to my wife and

then walked over and turned on the television, a local station, anticipating at least a crawl of emergency information. The screen was dark with only a stark message promising that the picture would return in a moment. My computer? It said only that I wasn't connected. My wife and I stood in the living room and then walked out onto our deck. Fire? Evacuated?

The wind blew in tree-bending gusts. We looked for smoke on the horizon. We listened for sirens. We waited. And then we called a neighbor. They were going to wait and see, they said. We reassured ourselves. We'd wait. Plus, the wind was blowing north, away from Ashland. We put together a bag of must have stuff that suddenly seemed insufficient, ill-planned.

Ashland is a small town, cupped in a wilderness to the west and grassland to the east. The weeks have been unyieldingly hot, scorching. Suddenly everything seemed vulnerable. Fragile. Level 1, 2, 3? Red flags now raised? Possibly.

Later that evening watching the news on television, we learned that the small neighboring towns of Talent and Phoenix were all but gone with significant damage to the towns of Detroit, Blue River, Vida. Tragically, people had died while others were missing. The fire that exploded through the area was reminiscent of the total destruction of Paradise in California in November 2018.

And just like that, in that one afternoon and evening, a window shade snapped open and we were reminded harshly – we later learned, tragically – of the perennial crisis that is, however silent and disguised, ever with us. And we once again felt as if we were being shaken awake. That urgent knock on the door... we're leaving. But to where? Where on planet earth can we go? And so that familiar and forgotten reality, in that moment, seismically returned: we are at a climate crossroads. And once again we are awakened by a knock on the door.

READ IT IN THE POST

Nervous? Anxious? Don't know about COVID testing?

Here's one man's homemade answer to COVID tests. Proceed at your own risk.

1. Pour a large glass of red wine. Try to smell it.
2. If you can smell the wine, drink it and see if you can taste it.
3. If you can smell it and taste it, it confirms that you don't have COVID.

Last night I did the test 11 times, and all were negative, thank God.

Tonight I am going to do the test again, because this morning I woke up with a headache and I'm concerned I might be coming down with something.

I am so nervous.

THE WAY OUT  10.10.20

Please Join Us for Our
First Ever Virtual Live Gala
and auction with
Alice Waters of Chez Panisse
October 10, 2020
6:30 pm

[\(link to be provided after registration\)](#)

The Way Out is an event supporting vital programs and services for those in need throughout Alameda County. Funds raised through this event will stay local and go toward food, shelter, job training, mentoring, youth programs, and so much more!

Last year, The Salvation Army of Alameda County served 15,418 people because of support from people like you.

Honorary Committee Members:

Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day)
Virginia Schwab Davis (Yellow Door & Mulberry's Market)
Pete Docter (2-time Oscar Winner, Pixar)
Alice Waters (Chez Panisse)
Rita Moreno (Academy Award Winning Actor)

A VIRTUAL EVENT YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!

Please join us for this one-of-a-kind virtual event that mixes intimate dinner gatherings with virtual connections and powerful philanthropy.

We will gather virtually in Alice Waters' kitchen and cook alongside Alice and her daughter, Fanny, while enjoying a meaningful program and lively auction to support the programs of The Salvation Army of Alameda!

Registered guests will receive a fabulous (and simple) recipe and list of ingredients so you can prepare a favorite recipe of Alice's during the program!
(It may augment any meal you have planned.)

Enjoy a gourmet four-course meal from
Claremont Country Club
Executive Chef, Hans Wiegand
(Limited availability! Order Early!)

GALA COMMITTEE

Debbie Kelley, Chair
Corki Recht, Co-chair
Sara Cumbelich, Publicity

For details contact deb Kelley@sbcglobal.net

Or click on delorosalvationarmy.ejoinme.org/TheWayOutAlameda



Sara Cumbelich, Marketing Chair (left), Mary Theroux, Salvation Army National Board Member, and Debbie Kelley, Alameda County Salvation Army Advisory Board Member, Event Chair. Not pictured: Corki Recht, Event Co-Chair.

Post your ad in the

PIEDMONT POST

Call (510) 626-2468

nancy@cmc-ads.com

Candidate Letters

Continued from [page 3](#)

McCarthy – willing to listen; seeks diverse perspectives

Editor:

It was my honor and pleasure to serve with Conna McCarthy as co-chairs of the 2006 seismic safety school bond measure, and to experience her leadership skills in that context.

When we began the contentious campaign, I didn't know Conna well, but learned through it that she is smart, she works hard, she does her homework, and she seeks to understand all parts of an issue before coming to conclusions. Conna engages stakeholders in community conversation: she is always willing to listen, and she actively seeks diverse perspectives and insights. As we campaigned, Conna regularly reminded me that hearing diverse viewpoints from friends and neighbors helped us better understand the needs of our community. She is equally able and willing to listen to new ideas and perspectives, to thoughtfully consider the merits of an issue, and to stop deliberating when a decision is made and work with all-comers to take action. Throughout the

campaign, Conna was passionate for and articulate about our cause: the safety of students and staff in our schools.

I'm proud to have worked with Conna to leave a lasting legacy of safe school buildings in Piedmont. We would be lucky to have her considerable skills and talents, as well as her inclusive leadership ability, in service of the needs of our community. She has earned my vote because I know from personal experience how well-qualified Conna is to provide the kind of leadership our community needs at this pivotal time. Please join me in voting to elect Conna to the Piedmont City Council.

-Dana Serleth

Cory Smegal – smart, quick, creative, compassionate

Editor:

I enthusiastically support Cory Smegal for another term on the school board. I was on the board when she was elected and we've served together these last four years. Cory came onto the board with relevant experience and strong skills and, in the last four

years, she has only deepened and expanded her expertise.

Cory is impressively smart, quick, creative, and compassionate. To the core, Cory is a servant leader, always, always putting our students and their well-being first and thoughtfully balancing the needs of our myriad stakeholders against what will best serve our students and their families. Cory asks questions...a lot of them, and it's a very good thing. She does her homework and does it well and is an out-of-the-box thinker who pushes and prods to find the best solution within the confines of the rules and regulations that govern public education. What I especially appreciate, too, is that Cory wants everyone to understand the "why" of an action or decision, taking the time to provide background during board discussions so that everyone understands the context in which decisions/actions are made.

It's been a difficult year in light of shifting our learning environment because of COVID, and it is a testament to Cory that she has chosen to continue to serve for another four years and to continue to use her talents for our educational community. It will be my honor to continue to work with her. Please join me in voting for Cory for school board. I know absolutely that Piedmont will be very well served.

-Amal Smith
Member, Piedmont School Board

Pool Letters

Continued from [page 11](#)

hours a day.

Piedmont families need and deserve a fully functioning swim facility to round out all the wonderful recreational activities that the city offers. As a long time volunteer for Dress best for Less, I will miss the generous space at the carriage house. However, the school and city value the service of DBFL and will certainly find a space suitable for donations being collected. There is no doubt in my mind that working together we will find a way to have both a fantastic new pool and nice donation center for DBFL.

-Gayle Sells
DBFL Board member

No pool in Piedmont? Unthinkable

Editor:

Piedmont without a pool is unthinkable, but if we don't pass Measure UU, that is exactly what we will be facing. The current 56-year-old pool is well past its usable life and must be closed permanently. It leaks thousands of gallons every day. It is too small and too old to meet the growing demand from users and

high school athletes.

And the physical infrastructure is literally crumbling – I personally had a large chunk of pool deck concrete fall into the pool at my feet while swimming laps last year.

Until recently the pool has embodied everything wonderful about our city: open space, fresh air, high-quality recreation, first-rate school resources, and a strong sense of community. The new pool will ensure that this doesn't change.

I would also argue that the new pool will retain that ineffable Piedmont characteristic of understated excellence.

The plan is for a replacement pool that provides exactly what our community needs and no more. There is nothing flashy or excessive in the new plan – just an attractive, fully functional and durable pool in an already-beautiful setting.

Accordingly, this is a very reasonable price tag for a great aquatics facility that can meet the recreational and athletics needs of our community. It is a pool that Piedmonters of all ages can enjoy and be proud of for the next 50 years.

I encourage your readers to join me and vote Yes on Measure UU.

-Terry London

Urging a No vote on pool bond

Instead of spending \$20,000,000 on an extravagant new pool facility, how about \$3 to \$4 million for a pool renovation?

A private club in Orinda spent \$3 million in 2012 to upgrade a 6-lane 25-yard pool to a state of the art 8-lane 25-yard pool, and a new children's pool with a 15-foot loop slide and refurbished their locker rooms.

In addition, does it make sense, now, given the current economic climate, with proposed increases in state income taxes and cutbacks to state and local governments? The cost to Piedmont residents would be three-fold: An increase in ad valorem tax, a transfer tax (paid when home is sold), plus anticipated large increases in usage fees.

Additionally, a large facility would attract non-residents, which will exacerbate a parking problem. The pool project should be viewed in the context of other expected capital projects, such as the fire station retrofit.

I have been a member of the Piedmont pool for the last 22 years, am an avid lap swimmer, and have three children who all learned to swim in the pool. I support a new pool, just a more modest one.

Vote no on UU.
-Steve Krohn, CPA

TK-5 Waiver

Continued from [page 6](#)

Board President Amal Smith.

"Just going through this process and making sure we cover everything on the check list may give staff, students and families confidence in our plans. Also, we don't know exactly what requirements the county will put on us for the red tier," added Board Vice-President Cory Smegal.

Board members expect the red tier requirements will be similar to the waiver requirements. Superintendent Randy Booker outlined the district's progress on the waiver application topics.

In a press release Booker stated, "*I believe the District has addressed many of these topics through negotiations and public outreach, such as:*

- Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation
- Cohorting and Physical Distancing
- Face Coverings and other Essential Protective Gear
- Health Screenings for Staff
- Healthy Hygiene Practices
- Triggers to Switch to Distance Learning."

More planning is needed around the following waiver topics:

- Entrance, Egress, and Movement within Schools
- Health Screening Tool for Students
- Identification and Tracing of Contacts
- Staff Training and Family Education
- Testing of Staff
- Additional Communication Plans
- Additional Consultation with Key Constituents

Testing of staff is a point of focus for the district, they need to have a contract with a health provider to test all teachers and staff before school starts and every two

months. Discussions with Kaiser are underway, and currently around 80 percent of staff are already covered through Kaiser.

The Health Screening Tool is an app that would require students to complete a health survey every day before attending class. The district has already had a meeting with a potential vendor for such technology.

To download background information on the waiver, click on: <https://agendaonline.net/public/Meeting/Attachments/DisplayAttachment.aspx?AttachmentID=1230068&IsArchive=0>

Individuals not in favor of pursuing the waiver cited Booker's report that no other school district in Alameda County intends to file the waiver. They felt like focusing on getting all schools open through the red tier was the best route and did not foresee the waiver coming into play.

"If cases skyrocket and we go back to purple [tier] I don't think it matters what kind of paper you have; and we probably won't want to have kids and teachers in school either," said Board Member Andrea Swenson.

The Board is operating without clear guidance from the Alameda County of Public Health Officer.

"What has been super frustrating, for the superintendent and his staff and the school board is the direction from the county health department is not solid or static. It seems to be changing with some frequency. Who knows what they will change," said Smegal.

Ultimately, a majority of the board felt that submitting the waiver seemed like the right course of action.

To watch the September 23 School Board meeting, click on: https://piedmont.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=2231.

School Board Q&A

Continued from [page 10](#)

signs are a measure of the popularity of the candidate or the popularity of the endorsers who got the signs put up. Despite this aspect, I will be putting up lawn signs to help advertise my website which allows for deeper engagement on many issues. I hope voters don't use the number of signs as a way

to decide on whom to vote for. The nice thing about local candidates is that you can email them to find time to discuss issues. The parent clubs have a candidate forum coming up on October 6 and the Piedmont League of Women Voters has a candidate forum on October 8.

Piedmont Pantry

Continued from [page 22](#)

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine the cream cheese and butter in a medium mixing bowl and blend well until they are smooth. This can be done by hand, or with an electric mixer or food processor. Fold in the garlic and herbs. Taste and season with salt and pepper to your preference.

Transfer to serving bowl or ramekins, cover and chill in the refrigerator for several hours; up to 2 days.

Serve with sliced breads, crackers, sliced vegetables – whatever you like.

For more information and to suggest a food to be reviewed, see the blog of Piedmont resident and cook Deborah Quok: PiedmontPantry.com



California plans to ban sale of new gas-powered cars by 2035

Executive order aimed at reducing state's greenhouse emissions

By Barry Eitel

California plans to ban the sale of new gasoline-powered vehicles by 2035, according to an executive order signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom last Wednesday, September 23, and announced the same day.

The federal government, though, released a statement on Monday, September 28 questioning the legality of the order, which Newsom said was a necessary volley in the battle against climate change.

California's order is the most aggressive clean car policy in the country.

In 15 years, the order states, all new passenger cars and trucks sold in California must be zero-emission vehicles. However, gasoline-powered vehicles can still be owned in the state as well as bought and sold on the used-car market. The order allows Californians to buy new gasoline-fueled vehicles in other states.

"This is the most impactful step our state can take to fight climate change," Newsom said.

Amid a months-long run of devastating wildfires which scientists say are exacerbated by global warming, Newsom's order takes aim at reducing carbon

emissions in the most populous state in the union. The state says that transportation is responsible for over 50 percent of all of California's carbon pollution. As a sector, transportation is the biggest contributor to the state's emissions.

"For too many decades, we have allowed cars to pollute the air that our children and families breathe," Newsom continued. "Californians shouldn't have to worry if our cars are giving our kids asthma. Our cars shouldn't make wildfires worse – and create more days filled with smoky air. Cars shouldn't melt glaciers or raise sea levels threatening our cherished beaches and coastlines."

The sale of zero-emission electric vehicles has increased in California, but they remain a small minority of car sales. In 2019, electric vehicles accounted for just over 5 percent of new cars sold, according to the California New Car Dealers Association.

According to a report from the City of Piedmont released this year and based on data from 2018, transportation accounts for 42 percent of emissions in Piedmont. Building energy, used for heating and household appliances, accounted for 49 percent.

While the City found that emissions from building energy has decreased steadily from 2015 to 2018, transportation emissions have remained largely at the same level.

Newsom's order would require an ambitious strengthening of the electric grid in the state, as well as installing millions of charging stations for electric vehicles. Critics of the order, including Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler, have pointed to this need for major infrastructure improvements.

"California's record of rolling blackouts of electric power – unprecedented in size and scope – coupled with recent requests to neighboring states for power, begs the question of how you expect to run an electric car fleet that will come with significant increases in electricity demand, when you can't even keep the lights on today," Wheeler wrote in a letter to Newsom.

In response, Newsom spokesman Jesse Melgar said the state is ready to fight the White House over the issue.

"We aren't going to back down from protecting our kids' health and the air they breathe," Melgar commented.

COVID Updates

Continued from page 5

crew is staying safe during this wildfire season as it is taking place during the current health crisis.

"[Firefighters] are coming in from all over the western United States to help fight these fires, and even more recently, from around the world. When we're off the frontline, it does become a social down-time. We've had to re-learn how to isolate ourselves," Black explained.

Recreation Department

Recreation Director Chelle Putzer said that the bulk of the Recreation Department's role during the pandemic has been focused on childcare and assisting in distance learning while Piedmont schools remain closed for the foreseeable future.

Preschool and day camps have transitioned smoothly to outdoor instruction, but this also leaves students and instructors exposed to the elements. The Recreation Department had to similarly, and quickly, pivot when air quality in the Bay Area reached hazardous levels for a historic 23-day stretch.

"I have to commend the Recreation Department staff for being adaptable and committed to the community," Putzer said.

About 47 students are participating in the preschool program, and 50 students are in the current Camp Smart Start session.

"We made some changes to camp based on community requests," so it's closer to a Schoolmates model, she said.

A new element of the depart-

ment includes low-cost class opportunities that students can choose based on interest. There are about 500 participants in those programs currently. A few camps and programs occur on school campuses, but most are held in public parks throughout the city.

The department has also shouldered a larger burden to help ensure that city park users are complying with county health standards. Shelter-in-place guidelines have shuddered many businesses and gathering places, but parks and green spaces have proved to be a bastion of comfort for many during this time.

"The reopening of Beach [playfield] was really important to the city and the Recreation Department in terms of use. So we worked closely with the police department and Public Works to make that happen," Putzer said.

READ IT IN THE POST

SUDOKU SOLUTION

9	7	1	3	6	4	2	5	8
5	2	4	8	7	1	9	3	6
3	6	8	2	9	5	4	7	1
2	3	7	6	1	9	5	8	4
8	4	9	5	3	7	6	1	2
6	1	5	4	8	2	7	9	3
4	8	3	7	5	6	1	2	9
7	9	2	1	4	8	3	6	5
1	5	6	9	2	3	8	4	7

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

1	G	2	U	3	R	4	U	5	L	6	A	7	S	8	S	9	O	10	S	11	E	12	A	13	T	
14	A	N	I	S		15	E	S	T	O	P		16	A	X	L	E									
17	L	I	G	H	T	18	T	A	S	A	F	E	19	A	T	H	E									
20	A	T	S	E	A		21	B	A	R	T		22	A	R	M										
23	R	I	T	E		24	T	E		25	R	O	T	27	G	U	T	S								
28	N	29	A	M		30	L	A	N	31	D	32	N	33	I	L	S									
34	A	S	A	P		35	U	S	E	36	37	38	R	39	40	S										
41	S	P	I	R	I	42	T	U	A	L	43	M	E	D	I	U										
44	A	S	S	E	T	45	E	T	U	I	46	S	O	R	E											
47	O	P	A	48	H	49	E	R	O	50	51	N	O	52	53	54	55	D	E	U	S					
52	N	53	O	N	S	54	L	I	P	55	56	D	E	U	57	58	59	60	C	H	O	P	S			
57	E	N	E	I	C	E	S			61	62	63														
64	W	I	T	H	A	H	E	A	V	65	66	67	Y	H	E	A	R	T								
68	S	A	T	E		69	E	R	N	I	E	70	A	H	O	Y										
71	Y	S	E	R		72	E	S	S	E	N	73	F	U	S	E										

Piedmont Choir

Continued from page 16

the musical elements themselves in a youth-centric way," Tuan said.

The Kodaly method introduces skills according to the capabilities of the child. New concepts are introduced beginning with what is easiest for the child, progressing to more difficult. Concepts are constantly reviewed and reinforced through games, movement, songs, and exercises.

"We want the students to become independent and thoughtful musicians," Tuan explained.

All training department choirs participate in two performances each semester. The concert celebrates the musical accomplishments of its many singers following a full year of training and development. The spring performance is traditionally held in May or beginning of June.

The 2020 "Spring Sing!" was unique. Even with COVIC-related health restrictions imposed by Alameda County, more than 200 young singers across all three departments recorded their parts individually at home, while listening to backing tracks produced by the choir faculty.

The video is presented and narrated by Tuan, produced by Lead Editor Tate Bissinger, and edited by Will Adams, Maddy Adams, Derek Czajka, Joel Chapman and Kai Estrella-Kowal.

Tuan expressed his gratitude for choir alumni who have helped by providing technical support during the transition.

"When we jumped right into this the week everything closed down [in March], our office staff helped tremendously. This year, we're using a lot of alumni who are home from college, or in college across the country and want to stay connected to the choir," he said.

This year's "Spring Sing!" was the choir's first digital performance, but likely not their last. The Winter Concert is traditionally held in late January. Students are continuing to prepare individually through teleconference applications like Zoom.

NEXT: Part 4 in the series will continue with the training department with a focus on non-local performances and sleep-away camps.

PPD Blue

Continued from page 9

3:31 p.m. Scenic Ave. Report of a man casing houses; police find and release subject; no crime.

3:58 p.m. Highland Ave. Recovery of stolen vehicle. White pickup truck recovered.

5:31 p.m. Crofton Ave. Attempted auto burglary, damage to door lock on 2002 Chevy Tahoe, no other loss.

9:02 p.m. Holly Pl. Report of a man checking car door handles.

9:28 p.m. Grand Ave. Man detained and cited for checking car door handles. He had an outstanding \$30,000 warrant for probation violation. Citation issued; new court date set.

Wednesday, September 23

5:19 a.m. Lower Grand Ave. **Auto Burglary.** Report of hearing a saw. Confirmed that catalytic converter was stolen from car.

6:32 a.m. La Salle Ave. Report of a man trying car door handles. No loss.

8:42 a.m. Wildwood Gardens. Report of a gas-powered leaf blower.

11:49 a.m. Manor Dr. **Auto Burglary.** Report of a catalytic converter stolen.

12:40 p.m. Ronada Ave. **Auto Theft.** 2000 gold Chevy Silverado stolen.

3:07 p.m. Fairview Ave. Report of fraud charges.

10:39 p.m. Park Blvd. **ALPR** triggered by stolen 2012 Ford.

Thursday, September 24

5:04 a.m. Grand Ave. **ALPR** triggered by 1999 Lexus ES300.

Friday, September 25

3:54 a.m. Seaview Ave. Report of vehicle rifled through; no loss.

9:02 a.m. Monte Ave. Report of a gas-powered leaf blower.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Piedmont Unified School District Board of Education will conduct a public hearing and adopt a Resolution in compliance with Education Code 60119(c) mandating that the governing board of school districts must hold a public hearing in order to receive funding for textbooks and instructional materials that are consistent with the Curriculum Framework adopted by the State Board of Education. The public hearing will be conducted at the regular Board meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, which begins at 7:00 p.m. Via Zoom Webinar at <https://zoom.us/j/95246621168?pwd=aXvTzBWMzdrMERxeUlbdY1QT09>

CLASSIFIEDS

Place your **classifieds** in the **Post**.
Piedmont's only hometown newspaper.

Email ad copy to:
news@piedmontpost.org

ARCHITECTS

KELLY & ABRAMSON ARCHITECTURE
City of Piedmont Design Award
For Best New House, 2012
Rob Kelly – 510-836-0719
www.kellyabramson.com

BLACKBIRD DESIGNS
Specializing in clients wanting a "green" approach to building & design. 1818 Harmon St., Berkeley Andus Brandt. 601-1150

AUTO SERVICE

Quality • Community • Honesty
Piedmont Auto Care
510 654-0512
visit www.piedmontautocare.com for money-saving coupons and more!
Grand Avenue across the street from Ace Hardware

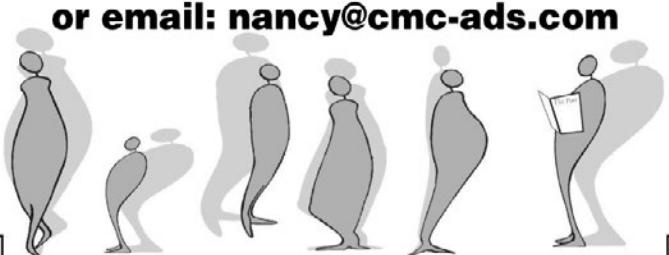
Glenview Automotive

Simon Ho
BRAKE/TIRES • OIL CHANGE • TUNE UP
30k, 60k, 90k service
Monday - Friday | Saturday
8:00am to 6:00pm | 8:00am to 4:00pm.
530-4222
1499 MacArthur Blvd.
Cross street is 14th Avenue

BASEMENT RENOVATION

"THE STRUCTURAL SPECIALISTS"
JIM GARDNER CONSTRUCTION INC.
Foundations & Drainage
Driveways & Retaining Walls
Termite & Dryrot Repair
Earthquake Retrofitting
Stairs & Porches
Structural Repair
Basement Digouts & Remodels
Garage Repair & Replacement
510.655.3409
www.jimgardnerconstruction.com
Lic. #444635 • Since 1983

Advertise Here!
With the...
Piedmont Post
Our subscribers are your customers
For more information on placing an ad call...
626-2468
or email: nancy@cmc-ads.com



ALL AD ORDERS MUST BE IN BY NOON FRIDAY FOR PUBLICATION THE FOLLOWING WEEK

CAREGIVER

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE CARING FOR ELDERLY,
Alzheimers and stroke victims.
Excellent local references.
Elena Paz • 510-313-8895
elena.paz51@yahoo.com

Homewatch CareGivers®

Let our family care for yours.™
We can help with the following In-Home Care Services:
• Personal Care
• Companion Care
• Transportation
• Care Coordination
CarePiedmont.com
510.835.9362
Owners: Leah and Benjamin Bloom

COMPUTER HELP

the macmama
Personalized support for Apple computers in your home and office.
New Setups • Software Installation
Parental Controls • Wireless Networking
Troubleshooting & tutoring
Cookie Segelstein
www.themacmama.com
(510) 520-7760
Apple Certified Support Professional 10.6

DESIGN/BUILD

LORICK CONSTRUCTION
Specializing in designing and remodeling homes in the hills.
5052 Woodminster Lane, Oakland
Gigi Lorick. 339-2208

ELECTRIC

ROBERTS ELECTRIC CO.
Serving East Bay residents since 1895.
For all your electrical needs – lighting, service upgrades, remodels, undergrounding, repairs.
2408 Webster Street. Oakland
Dan Pitcock • **834-6161**

FLOORING

Floor Dimensions
where beautiful rooms begin

We provide and install all your flooring needs

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1988
510-525-5656
1081 Eastshore Hwy, Berkeley
(Near Target)

FRAMING

ART LOFT FRAMING
Same ownership for 47 years.

Protected "Curbside" framing order design at our front door.
Mon - Sat 9:30-6:00.
2082 Antioch Court, Montclair Village
510-339-0890
www.artloftframing.com

GARDENER

YOUR GREEN GARDENERS
Skilled and experienced team of two, dedicated to the art of gardening.
Services include: maintenance, cleanups, tree trimming and garden design.
Email yourgreengardeners@gmail.com, Call us at (510) 655 0157

GUITAR LESSONS

Guitar lessons with Jim Gleason.
His students complete music degrees at Berklee, UCLA, Cal and Stanford.
Former students include the author of *This Is Your Brain On Music* and a professor at Berklee. 200,000 guitarists used his method. Jim's course is free at www.guitarimprov.com. Call 510-923-9522, jim@guitarimprov.com



HEATING

ATLAS
HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING COMPANY

Old-fashioned service and high-quality installations.

510-893-1343
www.atlasheating.com
Since 1908

HOUSEKEEPING

Weekly, biweekly, monthly.
Piedmont references. Free estimates. 11 yrs. experience.
Washing & ironing also avail.
Call Elisabeth at 395-0571.

PERSONAL DRIVER

I'll take you wherever you need to go in my Jaguar – shopping, errands, doctor appointments, airport. Courteous, reliable service. Extra care for elderly. Call Eric at 841-2891, or 982-9757 cell

ROOFING

COLLINS ROOFING, INC.
Family owned and operated
Quality Work • Reasonable Rates
Piedmont resident
Seamus Collins • 444-2220
Lic. #695711

TREE SERVICE

❖
DIAMOND TREE SERVICE
Specializing in the removal of hazardous trees. Providing exceptional service in Piedmont for 36 years. CA Lic. #515185
Kent Donaghy • 703-8880

TUTOR AVAILABLE

Piedmont Post reporter offering tutoring in mathematics through Integrated Math III, Algebra 2 and SAT level. UCLA and PHS alum, 10 years experience tutoring all levels + special needs. Online or safely in-person. Tutoring in writing and other subjects also available. E-mail: JDRussell@UCLA.edu. Tel. (510) 388-4354.

VACATION HOME

Need to Get Away? "Social Distancing" & "Distance Learning" Beachfront Condo on "The Strand" in Manhattan Beach. 3 bed/2 bath, deck, garage. Wi-fi, Smart TV's, Cruiser bikes, boogie boards, sand toys, fully stocked kitchen, linens, laundry. Walk to pier, restaurants, and shopping. 2 week minimum, \$6,000; \$500/ additional day. Discount for longer stay. Contact: Catherine Knowland, (510)708-7989. 1304 The Strand #B, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | Zillow

PAPER ROUTES AVAILABLE

Piedmont Post newspaper

Routes currently available for weekly & monthly routes.
For location of delivery & details, call 421-1773 or send an e-mail with your name & phone number.
Ideal job for middle school-age boys & girls.

Contact: news@piedmontpost.org

How to place classified ads

Up to 30 words for only \$25 a week.
\$5.00 additional per 6 words.

E-mail nancy@cmc-ads.com
or mail/deliver to 1139 Oakland Ave., Piedmont 94611 with payment.

Please include name and phone number.

Deadline for submitting classified ads: Friday, noon (with full copy and payment).

For more information call 510-626-2468

PIEDMONT POST

Name _____

Address _____

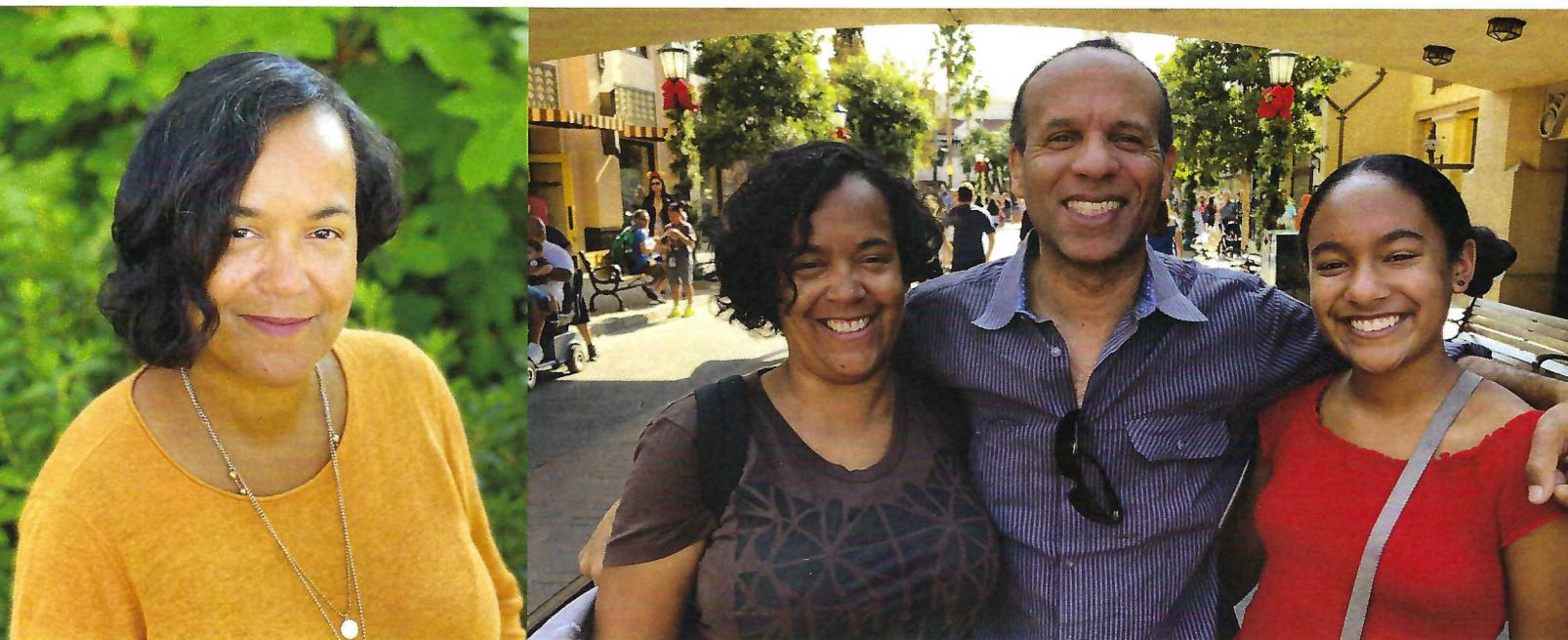
City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone _____

Classified Ad Copy: _____

“Veronica will bring a new perspective to the PUSD Board of Education. Her professional, volunteer and life experience make her an excellent candidate.”

— Cathy Glazier



WHY PEOPLE ARE VOTING FOR VERONICA

EXPERTISE

- Advisor to school systems and educational nonprofits
- Award-winning education policy and business journalist
- Steering Committee for the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research
- M.S. Northwestern University
- Stanford Journalism Fellow

VISION

- **Equity** as a core value and practice in every classroom and school, across the district
- Ensuring continuity of educational **excellence**
- Creating more spaces and structures for **student voices**, so every student is welcomed, heard, understood and empowered

LEADERSHIP

- Co-Chair of Piedmont's MLK Day Celebration
- Co-President of PADC
- Collaborator in developing the recently approved PUSD Racial Equity Policy

WE SUPPORT VERONICA FOR SCHOOL BOARD!

EARLY ENDORSERS

PIEDMONT SCHOOL BOARD

Sarah Pearson
Megan Pillsbury
Amal Smith, President
Andrea Swenson

FORMER PIEDMONT SCHOOL BOARD

Ray Gadbois
Cathie Geddeis
Doug Ireland
June Monach
Rick Raushenbush
Sue Smegal
Ann Trutner

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Betsy Andersen
Jen Cavenaugh
Bob McBain, Mayor
Tim Rood

KEY ENDORSEMENTS

Assn. of Piedmont Teachers
PREC
YARP

CAMPAIGN TEAM

Jennifer Long
Sachin Adarkar
Amy Griffith
Mahvash Hassan
Casey Hidekawa*
Suzanne Hidekawa
Diana Lee
David Thigpen
August Thigpen
Richard Turner
Anna Weber Kneitel

STEERING COMMITTEE

Lynnea Bao*	David Gard	Athene La Jeunesse*	Megan Pillsbury
Tonda Case	Cathy Glazier	Emma Moorhead*	Harmonee Ross*
Jen Cavenaugh	Michael Gross	Maude Pervere	

Fairuz Abdullah	Mark Glazier	Fontane Lo	Guy Saperstein
Michael Adams	Matthew Goldstein	Lisa Lomenzo	Abby Scott
Lorraine Adams	Leslie Gray	Jennifer Long	Gayle Sells
Nina Adarkar	Russ Griffith	Barbara Love	James Sells
Sachin Adarkar	Amy Griffith	Kerri & Mark Lubin	Deepti Sethi
Monty Agarwal	Michael Gross	Jeffrey Machle	Joris Sewandono
Hirni Amin	James Gustke	Tracy Machle	Heather Shepard
Tarang Amin	Heather Haggerty	Pamela McBain	Kay Sibal
Elizabeth Andersen	Claudia Harrison	Robert McBain	Sara Siqueira
Barry Barnes	Mahvash Hassan	Conna McCarthy	Sofia Siqueira
Eric Behrens	Keiko Hayashi	Gina McKuen	Alan Siqueira
Liz Behrens	Matt Heafey	Mark Menke	Lars Skugstad
Meghan Bennett	Margaret Heafey	Samantha Miller	Suzie Skugstad
Fred Bierhaus	Stephanie Hess	Marianne Mitosinka	Susan Smegal
Jodi Biskup	Joyce Hicks	Julia Moll	Eric Smit
Karena Black	Casey Hidekawa	Junko Monach	Ulla Smit
Anita Bloch	Suzanne Hidekawa	Kimberly Moses	Amal Smith
Lynne Bosche	Sam Hill	Astrud Moxley	Candace Dabney
Shanti Brien	Thurman Hunt	Rabin Nabizadeh	Smith
Kate Broening	Stacey Hunt	Mike O'Bresly	Kevin Smith
Amber Brumfiel	Jane Inch	Vicky O'Bresly	Richard Smith
Tam Bui	Robert Inch	Douglas Okun	Zoli Smith
Brett Byers	Douglas Ireland	David Oppenheimer	Brett Snyder
Tonda Case	Jean Jarvis	Anna Patty	Brynne Staley
Julie Caskey	Wayne Jordan	Maude Pervere	Teri Steele
Jen Cavenaugh	Agnes Kang	Jessica Peterson	Eric Sullivan
Irene Cheng	Daniel Kappes	Megan Pillsbury	Karen Sullivan
Dennis & Mollie Collins	Amelie Kappes	Thomas Pillsbury	Lucy Swenson
Elise Collins	Marcy Kates	Rebecca Posamentier	Paul Swenson
Marie Collins	Jacqueline Khor	Kristi Rasmussen	Andrea Swenson
Quinn Delaney	Anna Weber Kneitel	Rick Raushenbush	Wendy Szczech
Nancy DeRoche	Athene La Jeunesse	Jon Reynolds	Catherine Teare
Jordan Digiorgio	Anne-Marie Lamarche	Ann Reynolds	Susan Terrill
Sandra Dorman	Jon Lane	Jeffrey Riebel	Matthew Troyer
Shaya Ehteshami	Kevin Lasky	Shannon Rogers	Gretchen Trutner
Kate Faust	Diana Lee	Esther Rogers	Roger Tsai
Deborah Gadbois	Ellen Lee	Tim Rood	Liz Tuan
Ray Gadbois	Sheila Leunig	Laura Rubenstein	Bertrand Tuan
Brigid Gaffikin	Jonathan Levine	Gail Rubenstein	Richard Turner
David Gard	Julie & Nick Levinson	Ronald Rubenstein	Christine von Metzsch
Lisa Gardner	Jill Lindenbaum	Barbara Rubenstein	Roland Von Metzsch
Cathleen Geddeis	Arthur Liou	Sigalit Rubinson	Eileen & Rob White
Cathy Glazier	Peter Liu	Jeanine Saperstein	Fran & Cameron Wolfe Jr.

*Current & Former PUSD students Paid for by Veronica Anderson Thigpen for School Board 2020 • FPPC #1430133

VOTE FOR VERONICA • VOTE EARLY!