

Pleasanton Weekly

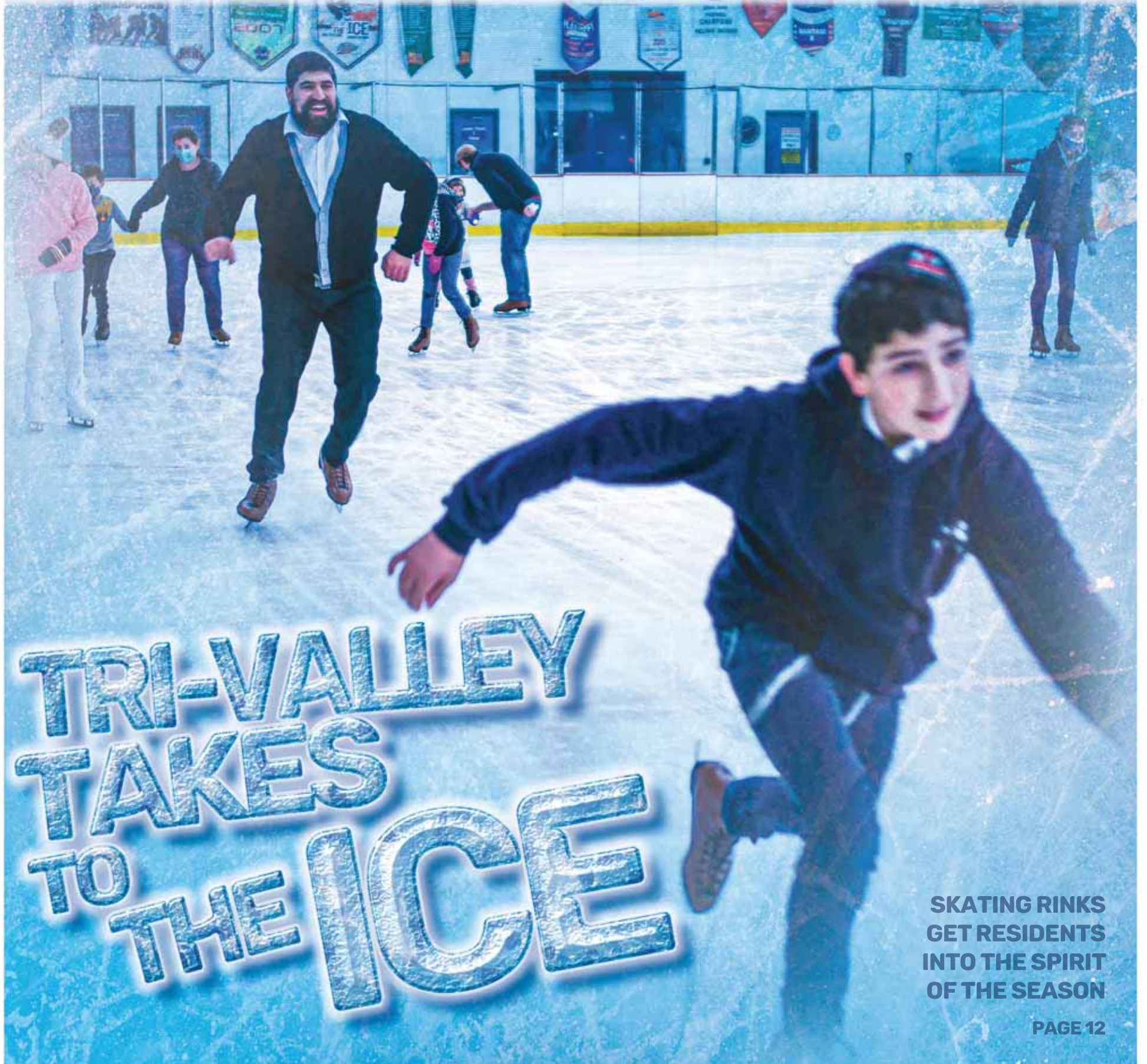
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Page 14



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TRI-VALLEY TAKES TO THE ICE

SKATING RINKS
GET RESIDENTS
INTO THE SPIRIT
OF THE SEASON

PAGE 12

- 5 | **NEWS** District attorney candidates debate the issues
- 5 | **NEWS** Axis Bridge helps fill mental health care gap
- 20 | **SPORTS** Falcons reflect after close loss in title game



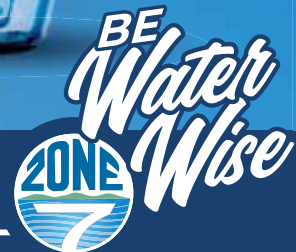
TRI-VALLEY
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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Reflections on Fialho

It truly is the end of an era. For the first time since 2004, Pleasanton's city manager is not Nelson Fialho — 17-plus years, a record tenure for this city.

He made the well-thought-out decision to step aside into a retirement from public employment for a well-deserved break before embarking on a future that is, well, pretty wide open.

At least that's the impression I walked away with after our 45-minute interview in his now-former office last month, which served as our lead story in last week's paper.

One thing I've learned from the response to our Local Scoop (our monthly e-newsletter exclusive to our Support Local Journalism members) is that readers love to hear insider details about our work. Let me give that a shot here, spotlighting some key takeaways from my Fialho profile and our professional relationship over my nearly five years as editor.



Nelson Fialho

Hard to imagine but this was my first extended in-person interview since the pandemic began in March 2020. Transcribing our conversation, I realized I'm probably a little bit out of practice; my delivery and vocal tone could use some reps. (Although, as I like to joke about myself: face for radio, voice for print.)

Oh wait, it's not about me. That's right.

Fialho's presence is what really stood out on the recording. Beyond his nuanced perspective reflecting on his 25 years working at the city of Pleasanton, there sat a man totally at peace with his decision and ready to embrace the possibilities that lay ahead — after a break he's very much looking forward to.

As someone prone to over-contemplating many choices in life, to the point of brooding at times, I appreciated the mix of calm and enthusiasm I observed in Fialho, a career civic administrator moving on from his "life's work" at 53 years old for the professional and personal unknown. Commendable serenity.

Now it wouldn't be the first time I learned something from Fialho. I hope it's not the last.

I had the good fortune of inher-

iting the monthly meeting schedule my predecessor Jeb Bing had with the city manager. The working relationship and trust ... that I had to develop on my own, and vice versa.

Those (pre-pandemic) sitdowns provided great opportunities to educate myself on city projects, policies and processes, or to pick his brain on key local and regional topics, or to better understand city responses to controversies, or to formulate my arguments when we disagreed.

I take pride in nurturing good source relationships. I couldn't do my job without relying on important stakeholders on many sides of the issues to speak with me. From the journalist's perspective, source development begins with access.

I'll always appreciate the level of access Fialho and his staff provided. It is less and less common in local journalism for a reporter or editor to have regular, unfettered interactions with the leader of a public agency. But it can be invaluable. Not to regurgitate their arguments, but to understand them — and figure out what to ask next, and of whom to ask it, as we work to connect the puzzle pieces.

I also valued that Fialho seemed to be open and honest with me over the years, and especially in our Nov. 12 exit interview.

He didn't shy away from the tough questions: name a single proudest accomplishment, the infamous housing cap lawsuit, the rumor mill speculating why he's really leaving and was he just going to join what I call "the public employee interim circuit for retirees".

The city accomplished so much during Fialho's long tenure, a laundry list of public projects and policies that made a true impact on Pleasanton, its residents and its other stakeholders.

And there's so much more for the city government to do ahead. It's just time for someone else to take the reins.

I hope the City Council and its search firm take their time with this nationwide recruitment to find the right candidate who will lead Pleasanton for years to come.

No matter what side of the issues you're on, it's clear to me the Fialho era will go down as the most important period in the city's modern history. What a tough act to follow; the next city manager better be up to that challenge. ■

About the Cover

Members of Chabad of the Tri-Valley put on skates last Sunday for their annual Chanukah on Ice celebration at Dublin Iceland, one of the variety of ice-skating venues popular in the area this holiday season. Photo by Cierra Bailey. Cover design by Doug Young.

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If you decided to have a box of t-shirts made up that contained just three words on each (like the very popular “Live, Love, Laugh” shirts), what words would you choose?



Nevaeh Gordon

Home healthcare attendant

I believe my three words would be “Go, Do, Help”. “Go” and “Do” refer to being affirmative and taking measures to actually do something rather than just talk about doing something. And “Help” refers to putting something positive out there into the universe. We are all capable of doing this but often, we just don’t.



Lauren Meltzer

Humor writer

Well of course the easy answer would just be “Live, Love, Laugh”. LOL. But I think the more heartfelt, thoughtful answer would have to be “Love One Another”. In recent years, our society seems to have greatly lost a sense of civility. People behave horribly toward one another, their fellow man, with absolute impunity. It has just got to stop.



Sarah Anthropolou

Well-being coach

”Love, Hope and Faith”. Those powerful words are the three ingredients of well-being and the three dimensions of meaning in psychology. Love is our connection to others, hope is our connection to ourselves and faith is our connection to something greater than ourselves.



Lisa Harvey-Duren

Patient advocate/pharmaceuticals

Well, “Always Be Kind” comes to mind first. Because you can never know, just by looking at someone, the struggles and challenges they may be facing in their life.



Paul Duren

Banker

I know it’s only two words, but they are two very mighty words: “Practice Gratitude”. We often forget that we have so much to be grateful for.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Holiday parade

Pleasanton's Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony is set to return this Saturday evening (weather permitting), highlighted by the procession of festive floats and community groups on foot, plus musical performances and an appearance by Santa Claus.

The closure of Main Street will begin at 3:30 p.m. Saturday before the parade starts at 5 p.m. The tree lighting in front of the Museum on Main will take place at approximately 6:45 p.m.

This would mark the first holiday parade for downtown Pleasanton since 2018 after cancellations due to weather (2019) and the pandemic (2020).

Visit HometownHoliday.com.

'Caffeine for a Cause'

Visit Tri-Valley is partnering with coffee shops, tea houses and bubble tea cafes in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore and Danville for a new fundraising campaign through Dec. 31, "Caffeine for a Cause".

Residents and visitors to the Tri-Valley can take part by going to any five participating locations along the Tri-Valley Caffeine Trail and submit a photo from their trip on social media or via the Visit Tri-Valley website.

For each person who completes the "Caffeine for a Cause" challenge this holiday season, Visit Tri-Valley will donate \$20 to local nonprofit Culinary Angels, a volunteer- and donation-based organization that provides healthy meals to patients with cancer and other serious health conditions.

Use #CaffeineForACause and tag @VisitTriValley when posting on social media. To find the list of participating shops, go to www.visittrivalley.com.

'Share Your Gratitude'

The Pleasanton Unified School District is giving community members the chance to share their gratitude toward a PUSD educator or staff member this holiday season.

"The 'Share Your Gratitude' campaign is designed to encourage the PUSD community to acknowledge those who have made a positive impact on their lives," PUSD officials said.

In an example post shared by PUSD, Fairlands parent Carley Kennedy wrote, "Ms. Green lovingly cares for her students each and every day while inspiring them to love learning. She creates a comfortable classroom environment that enables them to take risks and broaden both their knowledge and confidence. We love you, Ms. Green!"

The messages can be submitted online via pusdedu.info/gratitude. ■

Guns, public trust, death penalty among topics in Alameda County DA candidate forum

Price, Wiley, Wilson debate key issues as early campaign season gets underway

By CIERRA BAILEY

Three candidates vying to become Alameda County's next district attorney joined community group Livermore Indivisible in a virtual forum last month to discuss issues facing the criminal justice system, including gun violence, transparency and racial disparity.

The nearly two-hour discussion provided prospective voters with an opportunity to hear from civil rights attorney Pamela Price, chief assistant district attorney Terry Wiley and deputy district attorney

Jimmie Wilson about their reasons for running for district attorney and their respective plans if elected next year.

Whoever is elected to fill the DA seat will succeed 12-year incumbent Nancy O'Malley, who announced in May that she would not seek re-election. Her current term is set to expire in 2023.

Livermore Indivisible member Helen Machuga moderated the early candidates forum on Nov. 14, asking a series of questions that had been compiled beforehand followed by a Q&A period with

viewers facilitated by Marla Kirby. The virtual event was co-sponsored by the Weekly, Livermore Vine and The Independent.

One of the first questions the candidates tackled was identifying key challenges the Alameda County DA faces and how they would address them. Wiley cited eradicating gun violence, increasing transparency, and shutting down disparities within the criminal justice system in his response.

Wilson pointed to violence as the biggest challenge, adding that the focus of the DA should be on

proactively trying to prevent crime rather than just reacting to crime. "One of the reasons why I am in this race is because I feel that we are letting down our communities, especially our Black, brown and poor communities," Wilson said.

Price said that a lack of trust in law enforcement and the criminal justice system as a whole is a significant challenge that exists, in part because of racial disparities that negatively impact Black and brown communities. "I believe that public

See FORUM on Page 10

Free Range Flower Winery blooms

Winemaker moves to Livermore thanks to shared facility

By CIERRA BAILEY

Winemaker Aaliyah Nitoto has found a new home to produce her unique flower wines in Livermore Valley wine country, with the help of Phil Long of Longevity Wines.

The two wineries will share a production facility and tasting room on South Vasco Road upon the completion of an expansion and renovation project currently underway.

Longevity Wines is located in a multi-unit building and Long said he came across the opportunity to expand his facility when Nottingham Cellars — which occupied units in the same building — moved to Napa and only kept one of the units as a tasting room in Livermore.

Nitoto had been producing her flower wines inside of a cramped 320-square-foot shipping container in West Oakland for about 3-1/2 years before teaming up with Long to share this new approximately 4,500-square-foot space. Nitoto and Long first connected through the Association of African American Vintners, of which Long is the president.

Nitoto's lifelong love for wine coupled with her background in herbalism is what led her down the path of creating wine from flowers, an ancient tradition she said was popularized primarily by women. Her current varietals include Lavender, Marigold, Rose Petal and "RoseHybiscus."

Nitoto said that last year she produced about 1,000 gallons of wine in her shipping container



BRENDAN MAININI

Winemaker Aaliyah Nitoto is expanding her unique Free Range Flower Winery from a shipping container in West Oakland to a shared facility in the Livermore Valley.

and with the increased capacity the new space allows for, her goal is to at least triple that amount.

Free Range Flower Winery will also have its first tasting room in the space, which will also be shared with Longevity.

Long originally founded Longevity Wines in 2008 with his wife Debra, who died of pancreatic cancer in 2019. He told

the Weekly that the couple had previously vowed to never share space with another winery, but he said in his role as a mentor in the wine industry, he started to reconsider.

"I'm pretty responsive to anybody. I've had some great mentors along the way and I'm trying to reciprocate by doing the

See WINERY on Page 9

Axis Bridge fills gap in mental health care

Free program offers counseling, referrals for patients in need

By JULIA BAUM

Since its launch this summer, Axis Bridge Mental Health Urgent Care has worked to help fill a crucial gap for mental health care in the Tri-Valley.

Available since July to residents in the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore that are experiencing an urgent mental health crisis, and as an alternative to emergency room treatment, the free program helps patients ages 5 and up receive same-day short-term counseling, psychiatric care, care coordination, and connect to solutions for longer-term care, regardless their lack or type of insurance.

In a statement, Axis Community Health CEO Sue Compton said the "unique program," which is supported with funding from all three cities — including \$321,495 from Pleasanton — "has been a long-term dream for us."

"We are providing rapid access to mental health care for Tri-Valley residents with the goal of minimizing the escalation of symptoms that can lead to the need for acute care," Compton said.

A direct referral process with

See AXIS on Page 6

Wine heritage district moves forward with Livermore council's approval

Revised assessment boundaries exclude other Tri-Valley cities

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore City Council approved the formation of the new Livermore Valley Wine Heritage District (LVWHD) with a revised boundary map that no longer includes Dublin and Danville.

At its regular meeting on Nov. 22, the council heard an updated presentation from city staff that proposed a new, smaller boundary for the benefit assessment district which impacts 50 wineries located within the Livermore Valley.

The move was decided by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association to address concerns raised at the Nov. 8 City Council hearing about the original district boundaries being unclear.

The previously proposed assessment area excluded Pleasanton and San Ramon but included Dublin and Danville as well as unincorporated parts of the Amador and San Ramon valleys and Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

The new map excludes those other areas to focus only on the wineries in Livermore.

"This proposed new wine heritage district boundary represents a majority of wineries by both total direct to consumer sales and by simple number of affected wineries," said Adam Van de Water, the city's innovation and economic development director.

The formation of the LVWHD is sponsored by the winegrowers association. The city of Livermore will act as the lead agency for the district, collecting an annual assessment of 2% of winery sales made in the state of California over a five-year term that would begin retroactively on July 1, 2021 with the collection of assessments set to begin on Jan. 1, 2022.

"The district is designed to provide specific benefits to payors by increasing winery sales

and brand awareness, community and industry advocacy, quality enhancement and education, and sales promotion," Van de Water said at a Sept. 13 City Council meeting, introducing the proposal.

At the Nov. 8 hearing — where the council was initially set to take its final vote on the district — William Smyth of Westover Winery in Castro Valley objected to both the formation of the district overall and specifically, the inclusion of his winery in it. The questions he raised regarding the boundaries of the LVWHD prompted the council to postpone its vote and request staff to return with more information.

At the latest meeting on Nov. 22, Smyth said he felt the revised boundaries were appropriate. He said the new map, "places the district around where it should be

and that's in the city of Livermore."

While Smyth no longer expressed opposition to the LVWHD, another challenger of the proposal, the Alameda County Taxpayers Association, doubled down on its objection to the formation of the district.

Marcus Crawley, president of the group, urged the council to not approve the LVWHD, citing a number of reasons including a concern that the district would extend beyond its five-year term and a concern about potential pension debts.

Prior to the meeting, the taxpayers association also submitted a letter to the city that referenced legislation which prevents properties zoned for residential use or agricultural use from being subjected to assessments. The letter suggested that the LVWHD proposal was flawed because "many of the wineries in the proposed

assessment district appear to be located on properties that are zoned for residential use or that are zoned for agricultural use."

City attorney Jason Alcala addressed this issue during the meeting, noting that he's "not sure that there is interpretation of case law to support that." However, he said that staff would continue to research to find if there is evidence to support the issue raised by the taxpayers association. He also emphasized that the LVWHD assessment is on wine sales only and is not assessed against the property.

Alcala said that in the event that the taxpayer association's claims were found to be accurate, the city could disestablish the district at a later time.

After some brief discussion, the council voted 4-0 in favor of approving the LVWHD. Councilmember Gina Bonanno was absent from the meeting. ■

Former councilman, school trustee Arnold Abrott dies at 105

Amador grad, World War II veteran also worked as president of Kaiser Sand & Gravel

BY JEREMY WALSH

L. Arnold Abrott, a civic and business leader in Pleasanton for decades who served on both the City Council and school board during the 1950s and '60s, died last month of natural causes in his later-life hometown of Roseville, according to his family. He was 105.

An Amador Valley High School alumnus and World War II veteran, Abrott was an engineer by trade and worked for years at Kaiser Sand & Gravel Co. in Pleasanton, climbing the ranks until retiring as president and general manager in 1980. He also sat as an early board director for both Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore and Community First National Bank of Pleasanton.

"With all of Arnold's accomplishments, his role as a husband, father, father-in-law, grandfa-

ther and great-grandfather is where he shined the brightest," Abrott's family wrote in his obituary on the Weekly's Lasting Memories page. "He and (late wife) Annette loved to spend time with family, travel, play card games and golf. In Arnold's later years, he became an avid walker."

Abrott sat on the Pleasanton City Council from November 1950 until May 1956, when he was appointed to the city's Planning Commission that was formed just one year before, according to city records. He held the commission position until mid-May 1959.

He was additionally elected to the governing board of the old



L. Arnold Abrott

Pleasanton Elementary School District (before school district unification), serving there from 1958 to 1963, including a year as board president in 1962, according to the Museum on Main.

"We extend our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Abrott's family. Pleasanton is blessed to benefit from a legacy of educational leaders, Mr. Abrott being one of them. We are grateful to all of our trustees, past and present, who have chosen to serve our current and future generations of students," said Patrick Gannon, spokesperson for the Pleasanton Unified School District.

Born Lyle Arnold Abrott in 1916, Abrott — who went by his middle name, Arnold — graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1934 and then from U.C. Berkeley with a degree in civil engineering in 1939.

He worked several years as an engineer with Kaiser Sand & Gravel until being commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He would later attain the rank of lieutenant commander.

After his military service, Abrott returned to Kaiser Sand & Gravel in Pleasanton and continued in the industry in the Tri-Valley during a professional career that ended with him holding the position of president and general manager of the Kaiser operation, according to an article in The Valley Times profiling Abrott upon his retirement in 1980 (shared with the Weekly by the Museum on Main).

Abrott sat for nine years on the Board of Directors for the Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore — which was built on former gravel pit property donated

by Kaiser Sand & Gravel, the same company that also contributed the land that became Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area in Pleasanton, according to the 1980 article.

He also served as a director for the Community First National Bank of Pleasanton.

Abrott and wife Annette lived for years in Pleasanton and then moved to Granite Bay during retirement. They were married for 76 years until her death in 2017 at 100 years old. He later moved into an assisted living facility in Roseville, where he resided until his death on Nov. 5, according to family.

Abrott is survived by his sons Arnold (Gloria) and Timothy (Kimberly), four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The family held a private graveside memorial soon after his death. ■

AXIS

Continued from Page 5

Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare's emergency department has been established for patients who would benefit from service at Axis Bridge. Patients can also receive help navigating the mental health care system with Axis Bridge, a task which the organization said can be "daunting."

Dr. Jennifer Penner, chief of behavioral health at Axis, said the program helps "fill the gap be-

tween emergency treatment and being on a wait-list for care but unable to wait."

"Patients are presenting with a wide-range of needs and the issues are compelling — a mom called about her daughter refusing treatment for an eating disorder, a patient waiting for psychiatry services through private insurance needed interim counseling, another patient had an initial psychotic break and didn't know where to turn," Penney said.

Currently, services are only

available via telehealth due to COVID-19 restrictions. When conditions permit, in-person services will also be available. Services are available Monday through Thursday from 11 am to 7 pm, and Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm. Residents can schedule an intake appointment with Axis Bridge by calling 925-568-2080.

For more information about Axis Community Health including non-urgent mental health services and the Axis Bridge program, visit www.axishealth.org. ■



Axis Bridge program participant in a telehealth session with Emily Schramm, LMFT, program therapist.

Key funding to help advance Open Heart Kitchen project

Nonprofit also shifting free grocery pickup site in Pleasanton

By JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley nonprofit Open Heart Kitchen last month accepted a \$250,000 grant from the Fremont Bank Foundation that will provide vital funding to move forward with construction of its new production kitchen and dining room in Livermore.

The “Vineyard 2.0 Project” at 460 N. Livermore Ave. will offer a permanent site for supportive services such as temporary overnight shelter, mailboxes, showers, laundry and free hot meals provided by Open Heart Kitchen. The nonprofit hopes to start construction early next year.

“We are so grateful to Fremont Bank Foundation for their generous support over the years. With this significant donation, Vineyard 2.0 is closer to becoming a real-



Open Heart Kitchen officials receive \$250,000 donation check from Fremont Bank Foundation to support construction of nonprofit’s new “Vineyard 2.0 Project”.

ity,” Open Heart Kitchen Executive Director Heather Greaux said in a statement.

“Fremont Bank Foundation is

thrilled to support Open Heart Kitchen’s ‘New Kitchen, New Hope’ campaign. We knew that we wanted to be a part of the Vineyard

2.0 Project to help provide critical services to people who are seeking stability in their lives,” added Julie Zhu, Fremont Bank Foundation’s senior director, nonprofit group.

The capital campaign remains ongoing at openheartkitchen.org/newkitchen.

In other news, Open Heart Kitchen announced last week that the free grocery care package distribution site it operates in partnership with Tri-Valley Haven and the Alameda County Community Food Bank has been extended through the end of the year in a new location — 6140 Stoneridge Mall Road in Pleasanton, behind the Workday building.

The free groceries are handed out each Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., via drive-thru curb-

side pickup.

“The families and individuals who come to us are facing challenging times, and we expect an increase in needing food to intensify during the holidays. We are especially grateful that we can provide extra help in the weeks to come,” program manager Shawnda Bost said in a statement.

The program, which began in the pandemic at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in June 2020 and then shifted to the Pleasanton Senior Center this summer, has served 3,300 households and the equivalent of 1.54 million meals in free groceries, officials said. Funding is provided by the Alameda County Social Services Agency and the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin. ■

Pleasanton police launch inaugural ‘Shop with a Cop’

Charity event sends local youth on one-day shopping spree with officers

By JULIA BAUM

Pleasanton residents looking for a new way to give back during the holiday season can take part in supporting the first-ever “Shop with a Cop” event on Dec. 18.

Hosted by the Pleasanton Police Officers Association, and in partnership with the Pleasanton Police Department and Pleasanton Unified School District, the inaugural event’s purpose “is to create and build upon the positive relationships with law enforcement and the community.”

Officer Ryan Tujague told the Weekly that after noticing many other police departments doing

similar events, he reached out to Livermore police for more advice on how PPD could get their own going.

“I thought here’s an opportunity,” said Tujague, who serves as vice president of the police union. “I know people think Pleasanton’s full of money; that doesn’t mean it doesn’t have people in need.”

“COVID has rocked people’s lives. Everyone’s affected, but the ones it really traumatizes are the children,” Tujague added.

Twenty selected PUSD students — two from each elementary school and one pair that are enrolled in remote learning — will

start the day going for hot chocolate at Starbucks with PPD personnel. Afterward, they will go on a shopping spree with PPD uniformed officers and community service officers, using a predetermined amount of money to select items they want from the store. Then, the group will have brunch downtown at Vic’s All Star Kitchen on Main Street

Tujague said the department is “trying to make this a movement involving everybody,” so all levels and different positions of PPD personnel including community officers, animal control and records clerks will be part of the event, as

well as their K-9 unit that’s scheduled to make a special appearance.

“As a police department, it’s not just about police officers,” Tujague added. “I want kids to see it’s not just about cops, it’s about everybody coming together.”

The one-day event is also sup-

ported by other businesses including Walmart, Starbucks and Grocery Outlet.

To make a donation for the Shop with a Cop event, visit the “Pleasanton Police Officers Assoc. Shop with a Cop” page on www.gofundme.com. ■

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TED CLEMENT

Seen here at sunrise during 2020, the historic Mount Diablo beacon is set to be lit in honor of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day next week.

‘Eye of Diablo’ to be re-illuminated for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Beacon on Mount Diablo to shine on 80th anniversary of attacks

By JEANITA LYMAN

Next Tuesday afternoon, community members are set to come together for a commemorative event recognizing the 80th anniversary of the attacks on Pearl Harbor, as well as what has come to be a symbol of both World War II history and resilience in the present day in the Tri-Valley.

Co-sponsors Save Mount Diablo and the local chapter of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors are set to host the 58th annual “Eye of Diablo” beacon lighting on Dec. 7, with the beacon being lit by survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack.

“The beacon lighting is a tribute to those individuals that lost their lives at Pearl Harbor,” said Earl “Chuck” Kohler, one of the few remaining survivors in Contra Costa County.

The beacon on Mount Diablo was first installed nearly a century ago, aimed at helping with aerial navigation. It’s the only one of its kind known to still be in operation, although four others are still standing along the West Coast.

“The beacon was originally lit by Charles Lindbergh in 1928 to assist in the early days of commercial aviation,” said Ted Clement, executive director of

Save Mount Diablo. “The beacon shone from the summit of Mount Diablo each night until Dec. 8, 1941, the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.”

The Mount Diablo beacon was extinguished following the Pearl Harbor attack as part of a large-scale blackout effort along the West Coast, spurred by concerns about potential attacks in the continental United States.

The beacon wasn’t re-lit until Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day in 1964, in a commemorative ceremony that has continued annually on Dec. 7 since then. The annual tradition was the suggestion of Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, who was commander in chief of Pacific forces during World War II, and did the honors at the first lighting ceremony.

This year’s event also marks the 50th anniversary of Save Mount Diablo, which headed a campaign to restore the beacon to peak condition in 2013, and has been a longtime sponsor of the beacon lighting.

“The Mount Diablo Beacon is a sign of hope for our communities,” Clement said.

Although this year marks the return of in-person events for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, the Mount Diablo beacon

was put to use uplifting the surrounding communities in weekly lightings for a year during the pre-vaccination days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We lit the Mount Diablo beacon weekly during the April 12, 2020 to April 12, 2021 period to thank our heroes, to honor those who have passed and are suffering, to bring our communities together, and to remind people to look up to the light and the healing power of nature,” Clement said. “While Save Mount Diablo concluded its weekly beacon lightings in response to the pandemic, the organization will continue its regular care and maintenance of the historic ‘Eye of Diablo’ as it has done for years.”

This year’s beacon lighting ceremony is set to be outdoors, weather permitting, on Tuesday (Dec. 7) at 3:45 p.m. at CSU East Bay’s Concord campus at 4700 Ygnacio Valley Road. According to CSU policy, all visitors to its campuses must be vaccinated or have a valid exemption.

The event will also feature viewings of the campus’ new USS Arizona exhibit, from 3-3:45 p.m., and for 45 minutes following the conclusion of the ceremony. Learn more at savemountdiablo.org. ■

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Workday acquiring firm for \$510M

Pleasanton-based software giant Workday, Inc., recently announced plans to acquire cloud-based external workforce and vendor management technology company VNDLY for \$510 million in a definitive agreement expected to close in the weeks ahead.

Workday, which focuses on enterprise cloud applications for finance and human resources, will utilize technology from Mason, Ohio-based VNDLY to supplement its management services for clients to “build a holistic workforce strategy for all workers”, “gain visibility into the total workforce, including costs”, “better plan for and manage labor needs” and “control compliance and security risk,” Workday officials said.

“As organizations expand the definition of their workforce to meet growing business and talent demands, they need solutions that provide a holistic view of all worker types — including contingent workers — so they can better plan for and meet the great opportunity in front of them,” Workday chief strategy officer Pete Schlampp said in a statement.

“VNDLY is at the forefront of the vendor management industry with an innovative and intuitive approach. The powerful combination of our technologies and talent will help customers better manage their evolving workforce dynamics, helping them keep pace with today’s changing world of work,” he added.

The proposed definitive agreement, announced on Nov. 18 and expected to close by Jan. 31, calls for Workday to acquire VNDLY for consideration of approximately \$510 million, consisting primarily of cash — subject to successfully completing customary closing conditions, including required regulatory approvals.

Workday also revealed last month the promotions of Doug Robinson to co-president (as of Nov. 18) and Barbara Larson to chief financial officer (effective Feb. 1).

Pans on Fire

Pans on Fire, the familiar cookware and culinary items shop with food studio for cooking classes and private events in Hopyard Village in Pleasanton, marked its reopening under new ownership earlier this month.

Bruce and Laura Schoenweiler purchased the Hopyard Road business after the prior owner announced the pending closure earlier this year due to financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Bruce and Laura are passionate about food and cooking, and creating a special, welcoming environment for customers,” the new owners said in a statement. “They bring complementary strengths and interests to Pans on Fire. Laura loves baking sourdough bread and creating delicious desserts. Bruce’s

passion leans more to the savory and experimental side focused on barbecue, modern and classic cooking techniques, and cured meats.”

Safeway remodel

Safeway officials held a reopening ceremony on Nov. 10 to recognize the completion of a remodeling project at the company’s grocery store on Santa Rita Road.

The larger Safeway store on Bernal Avenue is now undergoing a remodel that is expected to be completed by the end of the year, company reps said.

Credit union deal done

Dublin-based Chabot Federal Credit Union has finished its merger with University Credit Union, with the deal receiving “overwhelming positive support” during recent voting by members of the financial institution primarily serving members from Chabot and Las Positas community colleges and the city of Hayward, executives announced this fall.

The Donlon Way credit union is now being absorbed into and rebranded as University Credit Union, with all of the staff located in Dublin retained through the merger agreement, which was first announced in August, executives said. The full systems conversion is expected to wrap up by next quarter.

As a result of the deal, University Credit Union now holds more than \$1 billion in assets.

New owner for CMIT

Information technology firm CMIT Solutions of Pleasanton is now under new ownership, with tech entrepreneur Maitjian Welke acquiring the local company that serves local business clients in Pleasanton, Dublin, Sunol, Verona, Brightside and Hayward.

Welke also owns and operates CMIT Solutions of SW Silicon Valley and CMIT Solutions of Palo Alto.

Logistics training

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District last month unveiled a new training program with Prologis, Inc. to better equip people with key skills for jobs in the transportation, distribution and logistics industries.

Through its digital curriculum, Prologis has pledged to train 25,000 individuals by 2025 and the Bay Area is one of 15 key logistics markets, according to CLPCCD officials.

“Opportunities in the logistics industry have reached a new peak as companies recognize the importance of the supply chain to their operations,” said Steven Hussain, vice president of workforce programs and community relations for Prologis. “This initiative expands access to career opportunities in this growing sector while addressing the hiring gap for employers.”

District officials said the company’s self-paced, online program complements the job placement support services Chabot-Las Positas and its community partners provide. ■

County opts in to law to keep food waste, compostables out of landfills

Goal is to reduce amount of organics going to landfills by 75% by 2025

Alameda County opted in last week to an ordinance passed earlier this year by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority that aims to keep food and other compostable materials out of landfills to curb climate change.

The county Board of Supervisors on Nov. 23 voted 5-0 to participate in the Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance along with cities

in the county and two sanitary districts. The ordinance was passed earlier this year by Alameda County Waste Management Authority, also known as StopWaste.

StopWaste passed the ordinance in response to Senate Bill 1383. The Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance implements the requirements of SB 1383, which passed in 2016 and aims to reduce

the amount of organics going to landfills by 75% by 2025.

"It's a large-scale effort," StopWaste spokesman Jeff Becerra said of the effort to meet the requirements of the law.

He said cities in Alameda County, the county and the Castro Valley and Oro Loma sanitary districts will be coordinating to do so. Implementation of the county law

begins in January.

It affects businesses, institutions, nonprofits, multifamily property owners, residents, schools, and government agencies.

The law also aims to make edible food that would otherwise go to waste or be composted available to people who need it.

To comply with the law, businesses, institutions, and multifam-

ily property owners must subscribe to a curbside recycling and compost collection service, put color-coded compost and recycling containers next to indoor garbage containers, except for restrooms, and sort materials into bins.

Businesses, institutions and multifamily property owners must each year educate employees, contrac-

See **FOOD WASTE** on Page 10

BART to increase electric vehicle charging ports at station parking lots

'There's an absolute need for more publicly accessible, easy charging'

The BART Board of Directors unanimously voted last month to approve tentative plans to expand access to electric vehicle charging ports at the transit agency's parking lots.

BART currently has electric vehicle charging stations at its Warm Springs/South Fremont and Lafayette stations. The parking lots at BART's Milpitas and Berryessa/North San Jose stations, which are owned by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, also have electric vehicle charging ports.

But with ownership of more vehicle parking lots than any other rail transit agency in the state, BART intends to place more charging ports throughout the system in anticipation of a market shift toward the increased use of electric vehicles.

"The assumption is that widespread EV adoption is one-to-five

years out," BART sustainability project manager Monica Meagher told the board on Nov. 18. "When we see widespread adoption, there's an absolute need for more publicly accessible, easy charging; we heard that consistently from all external stakeholders."

BART received feedback on its electric vehicle charging expansion from more than a dozen outside groups, including transportation researchers at the University of California at Berkeley and UC Davis, environmental groups like the National Resources Defense Council and transportation and sustainability officials with the city of Oakland and Contra Costa County.

The city of Oakland's Department of Transportation signaled its support in a letter to the board, arguing that more electric vehicle charging stations are crucial in disadvantaged parts of the city such

as the West Oakland, Fruitvale and Coliseum BART stations.

According to Oakland officials, the expansion of electric vehicle charging infrastructure will also help the city reach its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the city by 56% by 2030.

BART officials are expected to begin development of an implementation plan for expanding the installation of charging stations and, ultimately, return to the board for final approval.

"Although we're still in the early stages of EV adoption, BART as a clean-energy leader is setting the framework for the future with this policy," BART Board President Mark Foley said in a statement. "If people need to drive themselves to a BART station, let's find ways to encourage them to do so in a zero-emission vehicle." ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

WINERY

Continued from Page 5

same," Long said.

He also said that he felt Nitoto was the right fit for this opportunity.

"I don't know if I would just offer this up to anybody. I've had offers before and turned them down," Long said. "I think part of it is that (Nitoto) is fun and she's really eager to learn and understand and progress, and being in the position that I am to help, I'm more than happy to at this point."

Long also noted that he doesn't feel like they are competing with each other because he makes grape wine and Nitoto makes flower wine.

Nitoto said she is excited for this next chapter in Livermore and grateful for Long's support.

"We're in this position that we haven't been in before where somebody is not only believing in us but also putting some weight behind it," she said, adding that

she and her business partner had been in talks with other wineries throughout the years who said they supported her work but were not open to sharing their facilities.

While Nitoto said that she was still in the process of settling into the space and would likely not be

fully open for several weeks, Free Range Flower Winery recently participated in a soft-opening of the shared tasting room to begin introducing their wines to their new community. ■



Free Range Flower wine varietals include Lavender, Marigold, Rose Petal and "RoseHybiscus".


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Chief of staff Brown chosen to succeed late supervisor Chan

Can't run for re-election in June, vows to support Asian American female candidate

Following the untimely death of Supervisor Wilma Chan, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors appointed Chan's chief of staff Dave Brown to replace her.

Brown will serve the remaining 14 months of Chan's current term.

Chan died after being struck by a vehicle while walking her dog in Alameda on the morning of Nov. 3. Since then, her seat has been vacant. The Board of Supervisors by law have 60 days to fill a vacant board seat or the

appointment falls on Gov. Gavin Newsom to make it.

"As we continue to mourn the tragic loss of Supervisor Chan, I am extremely grateful to have the opportunity to continue her inspirational work on behalf of District 3 and all County residents," Brown said in a statement.



Dave Brown

He said he's humbled that the other supervisors trust him to serve in Chan's capacity and honor her, her work and her family.

Board President Keith Carson said during the hearing on Nov. 16 to choose Chan's successor that Brown has been one of the best chiefs of staff he's seen during his time in office. Carson was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1992.

"(Dave) will have the ability to continue to carry out the pro-

grams Supervisors Chan supported," Carson said.

Brown, who has prior experience in public office on the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education from 2004-08, served in Chan's office for 15 years and had been chief of staff since 2016. Before that he was senior policy adviser to Chan for two years.

Brown cannot by law seek Chan's seat in the June 2022 primary election because he would have to live in her district for a

year to do so. He has pledged to support an Asian American female candidate in the election to fill Chan's seat because now no women are on the board and no Asian American Pacific Islanders.

Chan in 1994 was the first Asian American to be elected to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. She served in the State Assembly from 2000 to 2006 including two years as majority leader. She was re-elected to the county Board of Supervisors in 2010. ■

—Bay City News Service

FORUM

Continued from Page 5

safety requires public trust," she said.

She also highlighted the need for transparency, which Wiley had also previously mentioned. Price argued the DA's office has been "operating in the darkness without any accountability to the people whom it is committed to serve," which is an issue that contributes to the lack of public trust.

"Most people have no idea how the DA's office functions or what they actually do or how decisions are made," she said.

When asked about how they would decide which charges to prosecute and which considerations are most important to them, both Price and Wilson addressed overcharging as a problem within the criminal justice system.

To illustrate his point, Wilson



Pamela Price



Terry Wiley



Jimmie Wilson

of her decades-long career.

She said that, if elected, the cases she would prioritize would be those that are rooted in public safety.

"We know that we

provided an example of a case that was charged as a burglary that he believed should have been charged as trespassing because the person broke into a residence where no one was living at the time. He said that overcharging is often used as a strategy to have leverage to get someone to plead guilty, which he deems "unacceptable."

"You win when you do justice the right way," Wilson said.

Price agreed that overcharging by district attorneys is "baked into our system" as it has been enduring throughout the duration

have an epidemic of gun violence and so I would prioritize those cases. And I want cases brought to me that are not based on racial profiling, that are not based on gender profiling, that are not based on income status," she said.

Wiley spoke to correcting the trend of overincarceration of Black and brown people that has carried over from the 1990s and early 2000s. "About 65% of all criminal offenses are what we would call low-level criminal offenses," he said, adding that he encourages

considering alternatives to incarceration and diversion programs for some of these crimes.

Police-involved deaths — an issue that sparked racial justice uprisings last year following the murder of George Floyd by then-Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin — was also a topic that the candidates discussed

All three candidates acknowledged that as agents of public safety, police and other law enforcement officers should be held to a higher standard and that there should be accountability for misconduct.

"When it comes to police officers, you have to understand that they are the only profession in society that can engage in justifiable homicide — and that gives them a lot of power out there on the street, and so they have to be held to a higher standard than others on the street," Wiley said.

When sharing their views on the death penalty and life without the possibility of parole, both Wiley and Wilson said they oppose the death penalty. Wiley said

his reason for opposing it is that there is "too much disparity in the way that it's applied."

Wilson shared similar sentiments. "I believe that the death penalty is applied to Black, brown and poor people at higher rates than anyone in society," he said.

Price did not explicitly say whether she opposes the death penalty in her response or not, but she reiterated the issue of disparities in the way that justice is administered when applying the death penalty and life without the possibility of parole.

All three candidates said that the sentence of life without the possibility of parole is dependent on individual circumstances.

Price, Wiley and Wilson are the only candidates so far who have declared their intent to run for district attorney, but other hopefuls may join the race as the nomination period in Alameda County for the June 7 primary election doesn't open until Feb. 14.

A complete recording of the forum is accessible via Pleasanton Weekly.com. ■



PNR

Turkey Burn sets record

A record 2,136 residents took part in this year's Tri-Valley Turkey Burn, a fun run/walk event at Ken Mercer Sports Park on Thanksgiving morning benefiting the Rotary Club of Pleasanton North and its community programs. "This year's Turkey Burn was everything we hoped it would be," club president Michael Cherman said. "It seemed like everyone was looking for a return to normalcy. We feel lucky that Pleasanton North Rotary had an opportunity to host this community-wide event." The fundraising total is still being calculated, but the tally will include \$15,500 contributed by the event's corporate sponsors, club officials said.

FOOD WASTE

Continued from Page 9

tors, tenants and students about the law and periodically inspect bins to provide feedback to employees and contractors about their sorting habits.

Residential and commercial property managers must inform their tenants about the rules no later than 14 days after move-in and at least 14 days prior to move out.

Businesses that have excess edible food must also meet certain requirements of the law for getting that food to people in need.

Those requirements include recovering as much edible food as possible, having a contract with one or more food recovery organizations to pick up or receive that food, and record how much food, what type and how frequently it is collected.

Large supermarkets, grocery stores, food service providers, food

distributors and wholesale food vendors must comply with the law starting Jan. 1, 2022.

'StopWaste ordinance aims to keep food and other compostable materials out of landfills to curb climate change.'

Large health facilities, hotels, venues, events spaces, restaurants, state agency facilities, and schools with an onsite food facility must comply by Jan. 1, 2024.

For more details of the new law, people can go to www.stopwaste.org/rules. ■

—Keith Burbank, Bay City News

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Tri-Valley takes to the ice

Skating rinks get residents into the spirit of the season

By JEANITA LYMAN

As the sounds of music, chatter and laughing children filled Dublin Iceland, members of the local Jewish community came together on Sunday to mark the in-person return of one of the Tri-Valley's popular holiday celebrations.

Chanukah on Ice, held by Chabad of the Tri-Valley, is one of several traditions that was able to be back in 2021 following last year's COVID surges and stay-at-home orders. Festivities were led by Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, who laced up his skates and took to the ice for a decorative Menorah lighting late in the afternoon, ahead of the official observance at sunset on Sunday night.

This year's Chanukah on Ice marked a return of the event, which had grown in popularity for several years prior to the pandemic. Resnick

said the turnout Sunday was bigger than ever though, and the crowd was tangibly excited to resume in-person community events.

Dublin Iceland's reopening to the public this past spring brought back access to the Tri-Valley's only full-sized ice rink, which was limited to some private lessons and small classes, all with ample social distancing, during pandemic shutdowns.

Hayley Parker, longtime Iceland staffer and niece of manager Steve Nelson, said that Sunday's private event was one of a smaller number Dublin Iceland had hosted since reopening. However, the rink has been in demand, despite the unpredictability in attendance, with approximately 300 skaters coming out during busy times, such as Saturday mornings.

While private events have slowed down, the rink has been consistently hosting a full schedule of skating and hockey classes of all levels for ages 5 and up, as well as recreational skating.

Dublin Iceland is also one of the facilities that hosts St. Moritz skating club, which the Tri-Valley's most well-known figure skating champion, Kristi Yamaguchi, is an alumna of. In addition to her many accomplishments, ranging from Olympic gold to her Always Dream Foundation, aimed at promoting childhood literacy, the Alamo resident has made her mark close to home, with an outdoor ice rink bearing her name at City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon.

With the smaller, seasonal rink, Yamaguchi said her goal was to expand access to skating for the winter holidays, and introduce the sport in a family friendly way that could hopefully inspire aspiring athletes of all ages to practice regularly at a local, year-round facility.

"It's never too late to start — get out there," Yamaguchi said.

Although Yamaguchi is the most recognizable ice skating star to come out of the area, she said that she was in good company locally, including skaters from her home



Young skaters who train at Dublin Iceland perform for the crowd gathered at City Center Bishop Ranch for the grand opening of the seasonal Kristi Yamaguchi Ice Rink, open through Jan. 2.

club, St. Moritz, who were among the performers at the grand opening of the City Center rink on Nov. 17.

"The Tri-Valley has a great pool of talent," Yamaguchi said.

In addition, Yamaguchi said that South Bay locals Vincent Zhou and Karen Chen, as well as Alyssa Liu, who was born in Richmond, would be ones to watch in competitive figure skating. In particular, Yamaguchi has long been an outspoken fan of Chen's.

"She has the grace, the interpretation, if she really pulls it together," Yamaguchi said.

Yamaguchi added that one trend she sees in the present era of figure skating is that skaters are seeking to stand out and define themselves as much as possible during their notoriously short-lived competitive careers.

"They want to make a mark on the sport," Yamaguchi said. "Longevity is not something common in



JEANITA LYMAN

Olympic legend Kristi Yamaguchi poses with local skater Sophie Peters at the grand opening of the Kristi Yamaguchi Ice Rink in San Ramon on Nov. 17.



JEANITA LYMAN

Sophie Peters practices her solo figure skating routine ahead of a nighttime performance at the ice rink opening at City Center on Nov. 17.



The return of Chan



JEANITA LYMAN

Center Bishop Ranch to celebrate the

round at Tri-Valley Ice in Livermore. Longtime skating coach Adrienne Anderson, who was hired at rink to facilitate its expansion from hockey rinks to include figure skating, said that despite the limited space, the two smaller rinks at the Livermore facility are prime for offering training in the supportive and comfortable atmosphere she's sought to foster for young skaters.

"My whole thing is if you don't make the children happy, and you don't love what you're doing, you're not the right coach to be here," Anderson said. "I think that's why our school does so well, because the coaches that I've chosen do have that special quality."

Anderson cited a supportive atmosphere, the strong foundations in the US Figure Skating Association curriculum she uses, and the power of muscle memory for minimal impacts on her skaters' abilities during the pandemic.

"It only took maybe one or two times on the ice before they were able to get back into what they were doing before the pandemic happened," Anderson said.

In addition to the competition circuit, figure skaters at Tri-Valley Ice are gearing up for group and solo performances for Christmas recital next Saturday (Dec. 11). The event is set from 2-4 p.m. at 6611 Preston Ave. in Livermore.

The Kristi Yamaguchi Holiday Ice Rink at City Center Bishop Ranch is open daily from noon to 9:30 p.m. through Jan. 2. Tickets are available for 90-minute blocks, with proceeds going to Yamaguchi's Always Dream Foundation.

Dublin Iceland and Tri-Valley Ice are open year-round, with a schedule of family skating, classes and private lessons at various times. ■

skating anymore."

Although Yamaguchi herself didn't put on skates for the grand opening of her namesake rink in San Ramon last month, the event did showcase performances from local figure skaters, which Yamaguchi said was necessary.

"It wouldn't be an ice rink opening without these beautiful performers," she remarked.

In addition to Dublin Iceland, local skaters are able to train year-



CIERRA BAILEY

Skaters of all ages take to the ice at Dublin Iceland during Chanukah on Ice, hosted by Chabad of the Tri-Valley on Nov. 28.



CIERRA BAILEY

Rabbi Raleigh Resnick skates during the decorative menorah lighting at Dublin Iceland late in the afternoon on Nov. 28, ahead of the official start of Chanukah at sundown that night.



CIERRA BAILEY

Chanukah on Ice proved popular for families last weekend.



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Finger Jello can be made in red and green for the holidays, plus cut into festive shapes.



DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

James Ryan, 6, enjoys mixing the ingredients for strawberry Finger Jello.

Kiddie special can be a holiday treat

Finger Jello — easy to make, colorful to serve

By DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Jello is an easy recipe that it is fun to make with children. And Finger Jello, which uses more gelatin and less water, results in a solid sweet that is fun to eat plus easy to cut, using cookie cutters or just a knife for original shapes.

The best part about Finger Jello is that it can be picked up and eaten, and it has a jiggle that is sure to make youngsters giggle. Use red and green flavors to add a festive touch to any holiday table, and a dessert that is sure to be popular with the children.

Finger Jello Recipe

Ingredients: 3 cups boiling water
Two 6-ounce boxes Jell-O
Two envelopes Knox gelatin

Combine dry ingredients then add boiling water and stir until well mixed. Pour into 9-inch-by-13-inch dish and refrigerate until set, then cut into squares or other shapes.

This recipe can easily be cut in two, making one half with green jello and the other with red, for a holiday vision that is a colorful addition to any buffet table. ■

Holiday Fund

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

This year's Holiday Fund recipients that will share in fund contributions are:

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 - **Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE)**
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Holiday Fund

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Music director Lara Webber and the Livermore-Amador Symphony open their 59th season Dec. 4 with "Symphonic Sounds of the Season."

Symphony opens season this weekend

Concert to feature Beethoven, Debussy, Dukas, Lauridsen

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

Livermore-Amador Symphony will open its 59th season this weekend with "Symphonic Sounds of the Season" at the Bankhead Theater.

"After a 20-month pandemic interruption, our talented community musicians are thrilled to be back," said music director Lara Webber. "With the great care taken by the leadership of the Livermore-Amador Symphony and the health protocols of the Bankhead Theater, our audiences can feel comfortable reconnecting with their community and attending performances once again."

The program will open with brass players performing the brilliant "La Péri" fanfare by Paul Dukas, Webber said, followed by the transcendent music of Morten Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium."

The program also includes Debussy's mystical and atmospheric "Sacred and Profane Dances," with harpist Constance Koo as the featured soloist. Koo, who did her conservatory training at the Cleveland Institute of Music, has performed numerous times as the harpist of Livermore-Amador Symphony and with other orchestral and ensemble groups in Northern California, and also as a soloist.

The evening will be centered on Beethoven's 7th symphony, Webber said.

"Beethoven's joyful, resilient 7th symphony was actually written during a period of profound suffering and distress," she noted. "Increasingly deaf, short of money, and unlucky in love, he somehow wrote music loaded with invention,

brilliance and sunny radiance."

"We hope you'll join us for these performances," she added.

The concert begins at 8:15 p.m. this Saturday (Dec. 4). Webber will provide brief commentary during the concert in lieu of a prelude talk.

Tickets are \$12-\$37; visit www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org, livermorearts.org, the Bankhead ticket office at 2400 First St. in Livermore, or call 373-6800.

Livermore-Amador Symphony is also offering a free family concert that afternoon. Tickets are required; visit www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org.

The symphony's 59th season continues with "The Brilliance of Youth" on Feb. 12; "Vibrant Voices," April 23; and "Building a New World," June 4. ■

'Jubilant Night' with Cantabella



Cantabella Children's Chorus will present a variety of Christmas medleys in person with their winter concert, "Silent Night, Jubilant Night," next Saturday (Dec. 11) at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy. in Pleasanton. Choristers ages K-5 (shown in photo) will perform at 1 p.m.; middle and high school choristers will sing at 4 p.m. Proof of full vaccination (or negative PCR test) and masks are required to attend. Adult tickets are \$20; admittance is free for those under 18. For more information about the concert and tickets, go to www.cantabella.org/concert.



Marjorie York	100	Curtis Lum	100
Diane Davidson	100	Tracy, from Vern Cink	**
Kelly Montes	200	George Dunphy, from Barbara Jackson	**
John Celeste	500	Bert Brook, from Dee Brook	200
Michael Martin	250	Coach Tony Costello, from Michael Costello	**
D+D+D+D Bodemann	100	Richard L. Parr, from Denise Parr	100
Lori James Rice	**	Cecelia Anderson, from Art S. Tenbrink, MFT	25
Janie Dobbs	50	Jerry Severin, from Charlotte Severin	100
Kevin & Cindy Powers	**	Loved ones who have passed, from Sue (King) & Hank Irwin ..	100
Alan & Jean Purves	250	Bill & Alice Marsh, from Bill & Audrey Sears	**
Don & Judy Person	**	Lynne & Liane Pruiksma, from Colleen Heller	**

IN MEMORY OF

Xiaofan Han, from Xiaojun Mo's Family	**	Our parents Chris & Glenda Beratlis, from Eric & Chris Beratlis	**
Charles Sebahar Sr. & Charles Sebahar Jr., from Karen L. Sebahar	100	William C. "Bud" Lunde, from Louise Lunde	100
My husband, Billy L. Haraughty, from Anita Haraughty	30	Ernie Shanks, from Margaret Shanks	**
Betty Patrick, from Charles & Joan Brown	100	Rick Aguiar & George Fargis, Jr., from Nancy Aguiar Fargis	**
Gam & Papa Abbott, from the Casey Family	**	Richard Brierly, from Stephanie & Haley England	100
Terry Scavone, from Judity Scavone	50	James Kohnen & Cleve Beck, from Patricia Kohnen	300
Bill & Emily Hirst, from Bill Hirst	100	Frank & Mabel Rich and Joe & Audrey Kramm	**
Carl W. Pretzel, from Marilyn Pretzel	**		
Jerry Lemm, from Marilyn Lemm, Mark & Michele	**		
James & Frederika Traini, from Matt Traini & Wendy Wong	**		

IN HONOR OF

Edythe L. Shewfelt, from Frank & Muriel Capilla	**	SMMCB, you bring us such joy, pride and laughter, GMA & GPA Spicka	**
Karl K. Witze	500	Hongkongers, from A & K Wong	100
Bob Griffiths, from Sharon Morrison	50	Roland von Metzsch	**
Joe & Doris Antonini, from John & Carolyn Cardinali	100	Our 6 Grandchildren	**

AS A GIFT FOR

Doris R. Sanchez, from Virginia Snodgrass	**	Ken & Carole Moy's 70th Wedding Anniversary	**
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BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

Erik Lemoine, from the Lemoine Family	**	DeBernardi Development Construction & Remodeling	**
Michael Corbett & Ed Clements, from Dave Cryer	100	Time 4 Order Professional Organizing	**
Lee B. Young, from Marsha Young	200	Charles Huff Architect, A.I.A.	**
Frank Thompson, from Steve McCoy-Thompson ..	30	J.E. Moore Air Conditioning Inc.	500

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

Empower Empathy — an award-winning board game

Two local moms create fun way to impart important lessons to kids

BY DOLORES FOX CIARDELLI

'Tis the season to bring out the board games for a fun family time that does not involve looking at a screen.

Angel Liang of Pleasanton, an educational psychologist, is a big believer in board games.

"So much technology these days wipes away human interaction," she said.

Board games benefit brains of all ages, she points out, boosting language skills and sharpening focus. They help little children learn to identify colors, count spaces and improve their dexterity, and they also teach patience as children learn to wait their turn and follow the rules. And young players can learn to be good losers.

To help children learn another important life skill — empathy — Liang and her friend Tina Wong of Dublin have spent the last three years developing a board game called Empower Empathy in which the players work together.

"It's a game that is collaborative," explained Wong, a designer with a management background. "The goal is to get a set of superheroes across the city."

"Kids love superheroes, superpowers and villains," she added with a laugh. "We incorporated a lot of techniques that make kids want to play the game."

The two women were friends in high school and college in Texas, then didn't see each other for 15 years although they continued to share social media. When Wong posted a photo of herself at an outdoor concert, Liang recognized Lions Wayside Park.

"Where are you?!" she queried. They discovered they lived only three miles apart and had much in common. Soon they'd resumed their close friendship.

"We were talking about child rearing and about what is really important in our society," Liang recalled. "We talked about what we can instill — character development, socialization skills and mental health awareness instead of just IQ or academic pursuits."

Eventually they hit upon the idea of an interactive board game.

"There's so much discord in this society right now — as parents we can't help but worry," Liang said. "I wanted to bring evidence-based

strategies from my clinical and research settings into a practical way for families to teach the kids emotional awareness, socialization skills and the power of empathy."

"She had non-traditional ways of teaching children to think rather than giving them the answers," Wong said. "There is a lot of information about how to teach kids with issues — why not teach kids how to handle things before they have problems?"

Empathy is a skill that "you use or you lose," she added, and children need to develop their empathy muscle over time.

The game teaches four principles that teachers have used for years, Wong pointed out.

First, it has players step into the shoes of another.

Second, cards ask players to name three things for which they are thankful, and helps them personalize an emotion.

Third, the game uses facial mimicry to internalize the emotion.

Fourth, players take the lessons out to the real world with activities from the accompanying guidebook.

Empower Empathy has been critically acclaimed, winning four



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Educational psychologist Angel Liang (right) and her friend Tina Wong, a designer, spent three years developing the board game Empower Empathy, which teaches children important life skills.

major children's game awards, including Tillywig Brain Child and Creative Child Magazine's Game of the Year Award, as well as Family Choice and Hot Diggity Awards.

Liang and Wong launched Empower Empathy last month with a Kickstarter campaign that runs through Dec. 15 for a minimum of \$59, which will include the game. It can also be purchased from their website, www.mytinysprouts.com, as well as on Amazon, and they are hoping for deliveries in March.

Traditional therapy games start at about \$200, they noted, and parents readily pay \$400 for a season of soccer so they think it is priced right. They are donating 10% of proceeds

to build schools around the world.

They spent a long time testing the game, including on their own children. Liang, who is married to an engineer, Stephen Jang, has three sons: Maxwell Jang, 6, at Valley View Elementary; Gabriel Jang, 13, at Harvest Park Middle School; and Austin Jang at Amador Valley High. Wong is married to a physician, Taiyo Shimizu, and has two sons: Takumi Shimizu, 3; and Kanata Shimizu, 9, at Kolb Elementary in Dublin.

"They love sifting through the different scenarios," Liang said. "It is heartwarming to see them using prompts in games to talk about what they were feeling inside." ■



vcc

The Valley Concert Chorale is back with live performances for the holiday season on Dec. 10-11.

'Carols, Glorias and Lullabies'

Chorale back live next weekend

Valley Concert Chorale is returning to live performances with its ever-popular holiday concerts, "Carols, Glorias and Lullabies," at 7:30 p.m. next Friday and Saturday (Dec. 10-11), at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St. in Livermore.

The audience will be welcome to join in singing familiar carols

including "Joy to the World," "The First Noel" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Other songs will include the 16th century French carol "Ding, Dong Merrily on High," the Austrian carol "Still, Still, Still" and Daniel Kantor's simple and tender arrangement of "Silent Night."

"The most challenging piece

comes from the Gloria section and features our own Daniel Glover with a virtuosic piano accompaniment in Randal Bass's 'Gloria,'" artistic director John Emory Bush said.

The chorale will complete the Gloria portion of the program with two well-known selections, "And the Glory of the Lord" from

Handel's "Messiah" and the first movement of Vivaldi's "Gloria." Finally, the performance will feature two lullabies by one of today's great choral composers, the Norwegian Kim Andre Arnesen: "Cradle Hymn" and "His Light in Us."

Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door; high school and college-age students, \$10; children free when accompanied by an adult. Purchase tickets online at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling 866-4003. ■

— Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Grants for the arts

Online workshops
help with applications

Alameda County Arts Commission has announced its 2022 ARTS-FUND Grant Program for nonprofit arts organizations, with awards of \$1,000-\$2,500 each. Last year the program awarded grants to 82 nonprofit groups throughout the county.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 8, and the commission is currently holding webinars to help organizations prepare their applications. The next online workshop is at 3 p.m. next Friday (Dec. 10), followed by another one at 10 a.m. on Jan. 6. The workshops are free, open to the public, and reservations are not required. To learn more, visit www.acgov.org/arts and click on "Programs." The Arts Commission staff can be reached at artscommission@acgov.org or by calling 510-208-9646.

The grants support all types of arts, including dance, music, theater, visual arts, literature, media arts and other art forms. ■

— Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

District attorneys form alliance against organized retail theft

In response to recent organized theft schemes seen across the Bay Area, seven Bay Area district attorneys created an alliance to ensure suspects face proper accountability, Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley announced last week.

The district attorneys from Contra Costa, Alameda, San Francisco, Marin, San Joaquin and Santa Clara counties say they want to put their heads together and share crime data across district



lines to ensure suspects are fully held accountable. The prosecutors also pledged to keep communications with retail stores and state agencies during the process.

"These are clearly carefully orchestrated crimes, working together in large groups to create a mob-like mentality," O'Malley said in a statement on Nov. 23. "They are instilling fear in merchants, customers and the wider community. This is especially appalling at a time where many are out and about during the holiday season. Be assured that those caught and arrested will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

During the weekend of Nov. 19-21, organized crime stunts occurred in San Francisco, Walnut Creek, Hayward, Oakland and San Jose — plus a failed attempt at Stoneridge Shopping Center just before 1:30 a.m. Nov. 22.

A few of the reported retail events from local law enforcement: Downtown San Francisco's Louis Vuitton store was reportedly cleared out by 20 to 40 people on Nov. 19. One Walnut Creek Nordstrom store was said to have lost over \$200,000 in merchandise on Nov. 20. Forty to 50 people stole an estimated \$40,000 in athletic apparel from a Lululemon store in San Jose on Nov. 21.

Gov. Gavin Newsom requested for greater California Highway Patrol presence last week, in belief that these robberies may be interconnected. The governor said he wanted accountability in the form of prosecution.

"We are going to be more aggressive still in this space to help support cities and the prosecution of folks," Newsom said in a statement. "I have no sympathy, no empathy whatsoever for people smashing and grabbing, stealing people's items, creating havoc and terror on our streets ... they must

be held to account."

Three people have been charged with multiple felonies related to the ransacking of a Nordstrom department store in Walnut Creek.

About 90 people in all stormed the store on the night of Nov. 20 armed with weapons, making off with more than \$200,000 worth of merchandise while about 25 cars with missing or covered license plates were strategically parked in front of the business to block first responders, police and prosecutors said.

The three people arrested and charged so far have been identified as Dana Dawson, 30, Joshua Underwood, 32, and Rodney Robinson, 19, according to the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office.

The trio has been arraigned on charges including robbery, burglary, organized retail theft, conspiracy, and receiving stolen property, prosecutors said.

According to a complaint filed by the District Attorney's Office for the charges, Nordstrom employees were pepper-sprayed, kicked, punched and assaulted with a knife during the thefts.

"We are committed to stopping those who participate in organized retail theft, which has adverse and costly impacts on business owners and consumers as well," Contra Costa County District Attorney Diana Becton said in a statement announcing the charges in the Nordstrom case.

Authorities are still seeking more suspects in the Nordstrom thefts. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Deng at deng@walnutcreekpd.com.

—Bay City News Service

In other news

• Two people sustained severe injuries in an apparent DUI collision on West Las Positas Boulevard over the Thanksgiving weekend, less than a quarter mile away from the site of a fatal crash on the same Pleasanton thoroughfare earlier in the month.

The investigation is still unfolding, but Pleasanton police Lt. Erik Silacci reported that police responded to the scene of a multi-vehicle collision around 6:50 p.m. last Friday in the westbound lanes of West Las Positas Boulevard at the Willow Road intersection.

"One vehicle was overturned and several parties were transported to Eden Hospital with severe injuries," Silacci told the Weekly over the weekend. "One of the drivers, a female adult Pleasanton resident, was arrested on suspicion of DUI."

Sgt. Marty Billdt confirmed on Tuesday that the arrested driver — whose name has not been revealed publicly — was traveling

westbound on West Las Positas approaching the red light at Willow when her car rear-ended a vehicle occupied by two people who would sustain critical injuries. The impact of the crash sent the victims' vehicle into the rear of another vehicle also stopped for the red light.

"At this time, we don't have an estimate of speed or have had any witnesses who have come forward to say the driver ran a red light prior to this collision," Billdt said, encouraging potential witnesses to contact police at 925-931-5100.

The lighted intersection at Willow Road is located less than a quarter mile from the spot on westbound West Las Positas Boulevard where a solo-vehicle rollover crash on the night of Nov. 4 killed 23-year-old Pleasanton resident Melanie Mouat.

—Jeremy Walsh

• Three San Jose residents admitted to conspiracy charges this fall for running a car resale scheme that hit the Tri-Valley and elsewhere in the Bay Area in which they rolled back odometers and falsified documents for more than 75 older vehicles to make them seem lesser-used to unsuspecting online buyers, according to federal authorities.

Ramil Heydarov and Orkhan Aliyev each pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on Oct. 27, 15 days after co-defendant Seymour Khalilov entered a guilty plea in court to the same charge as part of a plea deal with federal prosecutors. The crimes included multiple victims in San Ramon.

Under the terms of the plea agreements, the defendants could combine to pay more than \$1 million in restitution. They also face a maximum of 20 years each in prison when sentenced by Senior U.S. District Judge Susan Illston in February, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California.

"We are incredibly proud of the



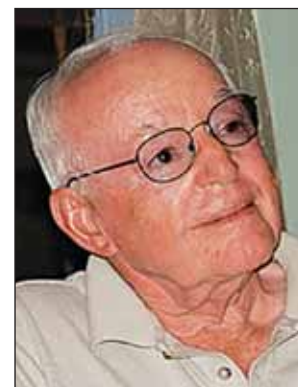
investigative efforts taken by the San Ramon Police Department members, especially the primary investigator, Detective Wickman. Their diligence and expertise were instrumental in holding these defendants accountable for their criminal actions," San Ramon police Capt. Denton Carlson told the Weekly.

The defense attorneys could not be immediately reached for comment.

See BULLETIN on Page 18

Donald Bruce Scott

February 26, 1932 – November 26, 2021



Air Force Navigator Flies Far
Retired USAF Lt. Colonel Donald Bruce Scott was born February 26, 1932, in McConnsville, Ohio, to father John Cleveland Scott and mother Frances ("Fanny" Richardson). Don died in Pleasanton, CA, which he long called home, on the morning of November 26, 2021.

Don enlisted in the USAF in 1952 and, on holiday leave in 1954, returned to McConnsville to marry

his lifelong sweetheart "Susie" (Carolyn Sue) Perkins (deceased 2011) on Christmas night. Together they raised four children who all survive: John Edward, Sheri Sue, Christopher Bruce, and Amy Jean. Don is also survived by five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Don was a hard worker and entrepreneur from an early age, starting with a boyhood paper route, with earnings fastidiously saved, and later teen swim instruction and lifeguarding. He mostly grew up an only child until his widower father married Mary Ray, enlarging Don's family circle with older step siblings Vivian Ray, Francis Moore (Ray), and George Ray, all deceased.

Don graduated with an M.B.A. from Pepperdine University, preceded by preparatory studies at Baylor University and the Air War College where he focused on math, electronics, and management. In his career, he established new satellite command centers from the ground up, managed inspection and quality control across broad geographies, and did much aerospace teaching. After the Air Force, he enjoyed a second career at Lockheed Missiles and Space in Sunnyvale, CA.

Don was progressive in religious thought and led youth groups in the Methodist church and the YMCA. Two people credit him with saving their lives, one from drowning and one from crashing a plane.

An expert navigator, he wrote: "It is very satisfying to see your destination ahead at your predicted time after navigating for hours over a large mass of water."

This sentiment captures Don's patience and forethought, for which he was known. He was an ever mature person and a thoughtful and caring man with a dignified demeanor and dutiful disposition.

Don especially loved golfing, gardening, traveling, and simple cooking. He played saxophone in his youth, tried his hand at winemaking, enjoyed reading, kept up his dancing, and visited the piano throughout his life, including serenades at Sunol Creek Memory Care right up to the last. He and Sue grew up together, their beginning marked with a flower exchange in kindergarten, and their years stretched through a long retirement rich with treasured living. The family's fondest wish is for them to reunite in their favorite way on the 19th hole.

Honoring Don's quiet nature, the family will hold a private remembrance. In lieu of flowers, please raise a toast or enjoy a tomato, as Don would have.

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BULLETIN

Continued from Page 17

The three-year-plus scheme, which unraveled due to an investigation involving local, state and federal law enforcement, saw the three defendants purchase well-kept high-mileage vehicles through the internet and then illegally roll back the odometers, alter vehicle documentation and resell the vehicles via Craigslist at higher prices because they were made to appear newer, prosecutors said.

“According to the plea agreements, the co-conspirators sold at least 78 vehicles with rolled back odometer readings, resulting in a total loss to the victims of greater than \$550,000,” prosecutors said.

In addition to doctoring odometers, the operation — which ran at least from October 2017 to December 2020 — included altering vehicle registrations and titles as well as using fake driver’s licenses containing their photographs but the names of prior owners to facilitate the sales, according to authorities.

Khalilov, 32; Heydarov, 31; and Aliyev, 32, were formally charged in a single criminal complaint in May.

Prosecutors noted that in their plea deals, the trio agreed to pay restitution to the victims at levels reflecting their respective roles in the scheme — Heydarov at \$379,235, Aliyev at \$196,578 and



Khalilov at a variable amount to be settled by the judge, between \$360,000 and \$534,072.

The sentencing hearing is scheduled before Illston on Feb. 4. In addition to the restitution, the charge carries a maximum statutory prison term of 20 years and a \$250,000 fine.

—Jeremy Walsh

- One of three suspects accused in a shoplifting incident in Danville last week is now in custody, facing additional charges of kidnapping and carjacking, after allegedly forcing his way into two people’s cars while fleeing the scene of the original crime later in the day.

Philander Raymel Johnson, 30, has been charged with two counts of carjacking for kidnapping, one count of robbery and one count of assault with a deadly weapon, all felonies, according to the Contra Costa County District Attorney’s Office.

The results of his arraignment this week were pending as of press time.

The situation unfolded just be-

fore 12:30 p.m. Nov. 24, when Danville police responded to reports of shoplifting at Ace Hardware on Camino Tassajara near Blackhawk, followed by reports of suspicious circumstances at a McDonald’s parking lot across the street, and at Crow Commons Shopping Center, where a suspect was taken into custody before 3:20 p.m. that day.

In his weekly “10-8” podcast later that night, Danville Police Chief Allan Shields said that a witness saw three people steal power tools from the Ace Hardware — one of whom carjacked a driver at knife-point at the McDonald’s parking lot across the street. The two other suspects fled the scene in a red Toyota Camry.

Because the suspect kept the driver in the car and demanded a ride, Shields said, this made the situation a kidnapping case in addition to carjacking.

The victim proceeded to drive the suspect to San Ramon, where the suspect allegedly carjacked another vehicle and headed back north towards Danville. San Ramon police, who had been alerted to the incident, saw the second carjacking while monitoring the parking lot it occurred in, leading to the suspect’s arrest and booking in the county jail, according to Shields.

“There were detectives, knowing that crime was happening, they

were monitoring the parking lot and actually saw the carjacking take place, and were able to stop the suspect in that case and free the victim,” Shields said.

Shields said that taking the suspect into custody had gone smoothly, and that the carjacking and kidnapping victims had come out of the incident without injuries, although one witness sustained a minor injury while trying to intervene in the shoplifting incident.

“There was someone that, while he was wrestling with the person at the store, trying to keep him from stealing, had a minor injury, but beyond that no one was hurt,” Shields said.

In addition to SRPD, Shields said that assorted calls from witnesses and the work of dispatchers had been key to tracking down the suspect.

“There were all of these different calls, and each one might not have provided a clear picture as to what happened. But our dispatch center, because they’ve got a lot of dispatchers up there, they were able to field all these 911 calls that were coming in, put that information out to our officers that were responding, so we had a very clear picture,” the police chief said.

Police are still looking for the other two suspects in the shoplifting incident.

—Jeanita Lyman

- A Stanford pediatrician has pleaded no contest to a felony charge for sending sexual messages to a 16-year-old girl, San Mateo County prosecutors said.

Dylan Edward O’Connor, 35, a doctor and clinical instructor at the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford, entered the plea on Nov. 23 to a charge of distribution of pornography to a minor and faces up to three years in state prison when he is sentenced in February.

O’Connor, a Redwood City resident, contacted the girl through social media and started sending pornographic photos of himself and asked her for photos, prompting her to call police, according to the San Mateo County District Attorney’s Office.

Redwood City police took over communicating with O’Connor, who asked to meet her. An undercover officer set up a meeting for Feb. 5, 2021, and O’Connor arrived with a blanket and condoms. He was arrested in the 1800 block of El Camino Real in Redwood City and acknowledged a sex addiction, prosecutors said.

O’Connor, who remains out of custody on bail, will have to register as a sex offender. His attorney was not immediately available to comment on the case. ■

—Bay City News Service

Judy Ann Morris
April 25, 1942 – November 12, 2021

Judy Ann Morris, daughter of Della and AC Wheeler, passed away on Friday, Nov 12th, 2021. After 25 years of multiple victories with her health, she succumbed to Progressive Alzheimer’s Dementia and slept her way to heaven’s door. Judy touched many lives with her gentle spirit and kind heart helping people.



Judy was born in Memphis, Tennessee. She graduated from Saydel High School in Des Moines, Iowa where she was homecoming queen. She attended college at the University of Iowa and NW Missouri State. She married George Morris on September 8th, 1963, in Des Moines, Iowa. She later completed a certificate in Doctor of Naturopathy. Judy’s interests were many as she also wrote a cookbook and won many first-place ribbons in rose shows.

Judy had so many special qualities that will be missed, from her love of growing roses and singing in musicals, to her creative cooking. She could always see the positive in life, despite all she went through medically. She learned, shared, and taught many from her business Healthy Resources for twenty years.

Judy is survived by her devoted husband George, children Clark Morris (Christine) of Salinas, CA, Ande Hook (Rob) of Carmel, IN, and grandchildren Jacqueline and Jacob Morris. She is also survived by her sister Linda Williams of Navarre, FL, and brother Jack Wheeler of Des Moines, IA. She was cherished and loved by her family and friends. Our loss is heaven’s gain.

A Celebration of Life in the springtime is being planned. In lieu of flowers please give to the charity or organization of your choice.

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Nov. 29

Theft

- 6:25 a.m., 4800 block of Bernal Avenue; auto theft
- 9:14 a.m., 3000 block of Stacey Way; theft from auto
- 10:36 a.m. on the 3700 block of Bairn Court

Vandalism

- 8:22 a.m. on the 4600 block of Bernal Avenue

Fraud

- 12:59 p.m. on the 2100 block of Corte Richardo

Robbery

- 3:42 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Nov. 28

DUI

- 1:08 a.m. at Hopyard Road and Stoneridge Drive
- 10:04 p.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa Rita Road

Theft

- 4:53 a.m., 4300 block of Railroad Avenue; theft from auto
- 9:37 a.m., 300 block of Abbie Street; auto theft
- 1:35 p.m., 3700 block of Brockson Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 6:31 p.m., 5100 block of Brockson Drive; catalytic converter theft

Vandalism

- 7:56 a.m. on the 300 block of Main Street
- 10:43 a.m. on the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Nov. 27

Theft

- 2:17 a.m., 3000 block of Tonopah Circle; theft from auto

- 6:24 a.m., 5700 block of Gibraltar Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 4:21 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 9:55 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Fraud

- 3:23 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road
- 5:56 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

Domestic battery

- 11:00 p.m. on Garibaldi Place

Nov. 26

Theft

- 1:22 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 3:47 p.m., 1100 block of Santa Rita Road; theft from structure
- 7:53 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 10:33 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Warrant arrest

- 3:30 p.m. at Owens and Rosewood drives

Burglary

- 8:33 p.m. on the 2900 block of Takens Court
- 11:27 p.m. on the 3300 block of Prairie Drive

Nov. 25

Burglary

- 5:10 p.m. on the 4900 block of Valley Avenue

Theft from auto

- 9:28 p.m. on the 1900 block of Santa Rita Road

Nov. 24

Vandalism

- 6:43 a.m. at St. Mary and Division streets

- 6:47 p.m. on the 400 block of Main Street

Fraud

- 7:54 a.m. on the 3400 block of Andrews Drive

Assault/battery

- 11:39 a.m. on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue

Theft

- 11:55 a.m., 2900 block of Martin Avenue; catalytic converter theft
- 1:55 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 3:38 p.m., 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 4:49 p.m., 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 6:21 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

Vehicle tampering

- 3:20 p.m. on the 4400 block of Rosewood Drive

Nov. 23

Theft

- 12:12 a.m., 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto
- 12:45 p.m., 5100 block of Monaco Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 6:43 p.m., 5300 block of Case Avenue; theft from auto

Warrant arrest

- 2:37 p.m. on the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

- 4:59 p.m. on the 1100 block of Santa Rita Road

Weapons violation

- 7:22 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

- 9:36 p.m. on the 3500 block of Bernal Avenue

Opinion

LETTERS

Rotary Club helps West African villages

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton recently partnered with 2 Rotary Clubs in West Africa, the Rotary Club of Eziana-Sunrise in Nigeria, and the Rotary Club of Accra East in Ghana, to help two schools with water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Both schools need toilet facilities as they have none. The school in Nigeria is a girls' high school with 700 students located in Aba, Nigeria. The Rotary Club of Pleasanton just received a District 5170 Grant for financial support for this project.

The school in Ghana is a primary school with 500 students in the remote village of Attiavi (only 15% of Ghanians have toilets in their homes). These bathroom facilities will reduce sanitation-related illnesses, improve school attendance

as well as personal hygiene and cleanliness.

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton still needs \$6,000 to help finance these projects. Anyone wishing to help these schools in West Africa on these projects can send donations to the Rotary Club of Pleasanton, P.O. Box 352, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Make check to RC of Pleasanton Foundation-WASH. For more information, visit pleasantonrotary.org.

—Nancy Harrington,
Rotary Club of Pleasanton

Full circle moment

Laura Castro starts her day with a school dropoff and church visit before heading to Vic's All Star Kitchen on Main Street in Pleasanton. Laura and her husband, Ernesto, are co-owners of Vic's. Both worked for Vic until he decided to retire — Laura for 24 years; Ernesto for 12 — and have taken over the restaurant since.

During lunch hour, a customer asked about the possibility of using the back room for meetings. The request immediately stood out to Laura. The customer, Vicki Gordillo, is president of the Assistance League of Amador Valley.

Operation School Bell-Clothing the Children, one of the programs the organization runs, invites school age children to go shopping for back-to-school clothes. Each child is given a budget and can pick out new items they need.

That's when Laura had a full circle moment.

Both her oldest son and daughter participated in the program at one point. Her son, now 22 and a U.S. Marine, was 7 years old at the time. He was thrilled to be given the opportunity to shop. Something about picking out new clothes puts a smile on every child's face. Her daughter, now a college student, was in kindergarten when she participated.

Both benefited from the intent and purpose of this program — to make the lives of families better and to help children in need. Even with the challenges of the last two years, the program is still serving families in creative ways.

—Anna Schaller,
Assistance League of Amador Valley

Show courage, Feinstein

The "Freedom to Vote Act" sets national standards for us to safely and freely cast our ballots, ensure every vote is counted, and elect people who will deliver for us. This legislation is not just urgently needed, it is also overwhelmingly popular. Our senators need to deliver the Freedom to Vote Act to the American people.

I'm talking mainly to you, Senator Dianne Feinstein. I know you're ca-

pable of demonstrating strong leadership — you did it during the dark days following the assassinations of George Moscone and Harvey Milk, and later as the first woman to serve as the city's mayor. That same type of leadership is sorely needed now.

The arcane filibuster is blocking progress of the Freedom to Vote Act and it has to go or, at a minimum, it has to be reformed. The filibuster is a loophole, historically used to block civil rights legislation. The original Senate rules did not even include the filibuster rule and it is not part of our Constitution.

I'm not telling you anything you don't already know. You also know about the draconian voting restrictions that Republicans in so many states are trying to put in place that this bill would help to offset. In the past, you've said that you agree with your constituents about the lack of action in the Senate. Please take the next step and speak out boldly against the filibuster.

This act of courage is within you — you've shown it before.

—Ward Kanowsky

Rebuttal to 'Moi? In a fight?'

I was shocked to read Dolores Fox Ciardelli's Valley Views article last week "Moi? In a fight?" and her inaccurate view on critical race theory. The root of CRT is Marxism and it is to cause race wars and division in America, not teach us anything about history.

CRT is based on lies and deceitful rhetoric. CRT falsely claims that all students of color are victims and all white students are oppressors. This lie causes racial tension and division. We need to focus on teachings that promote unity not division.

CRT proponents want to cancel our American heritage and culture and rewrite history. There is no place in our country for this Marxist communist approach. There is no truth in CRT.

In the history classes that I took in school and college, we were taught about slavery in America and throughout the world.

Slavery was not invented by white American men, but rather it has been rooted in civilization from the beginning of time and there has been slavery of all races of people throughout history, not just blacks (Jews, whites, Chinese, Japanese, Pacific Islanders and Africans). This is not an argument to support it, but to properly reflect the truth.

We also learned about many black Americans in history that made a positive impact to the world and to our country. Remember what Martin Luther King Jr. said: we should not be judged by the color of our skin but by the content of our character. CRT discredits MLK. Shameful!

—David Ott

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

Civic Arts Commission

Monday, December 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- Teen Poet Laureate update
- Harrington Gallery presentation
- Review Civic Arts Project Status Report
- Review and Approve Civic Arts Commission Meeting Schedule for 2022
- Select Committee Assignments for 2022
- Select Commission Chair and Vice Chair for 2022

City Council

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

On March 3, 2020 Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and has issued Executive Order N-29-20 and approved AB 361 suspending provisions of the Brown Act allowing meetings via teleconferencing and members of the public to observe and offer comments telephonically or electronically. The virtual meetings will be streamed at <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>

- Introduce and waive first reading of an ordinance to add a new Chapter 9.27 Restrictions on Smoking at Townhomes, Condominiums and Buildings with Three or More Attached Units to the Municipal Code
- Consider adoption of a resolution expressing the City of Pleasanton's support for expanding statewide access to rooftop solar through a successor Net Energy Metering 3.0 program

Planning Commission

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Consistent with State and County Orders regarding the COVID-19 pandemic this will be a virtual meeting. Instructions on how to participate and offer comments will be available after December 1, when the agenda is posted on the City's website at: cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/planning/commission/planning_agenda.asp

- P21-0132, P21-0133, PUD-142, Ramprasad Srirama, 3707 Trenergy Drive

Applications for: 1) Minor Subdivision approval to subdivide a 1.3-acre "L" shaped vacant parcel on the southside of Trenergy Drive and westside of Martin Avenue into two parcels measuring 21,886 square feet (Parcel 1/A) and 34,840 square feet (Parcel 2/B); and 2) Planned Unit Development rezoning and development plan approval to construct: a) 4,837-square-foot, two-story home with a 900-square-foot garage and related improvements on Parcel 1/A; and b) 4,776-square-foot, single-story home with an 853-square-foot garage and related improvements on Parcel 2/B.

- P20-1053, Hanna Naguib LLC, 218 Ray Street
Application for Design Review to construct a new 1,069 square-foot two-story residential unit behind an existing commercial building located at 218 Ray Street. Zoning is C-C (Central-Commercial) District.

- PUD-138 and Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map 8616, AVS Ranch

Applications for the 112-acre vacant lot known as APN 949-16-6 / Lot 98 of Happy Valley Specific Plan (HVSP) for: (1) Planned Unit Development (PUD) development plan approval for a 22-lot single-family residential development on a 33-acre portion of the site, and related on- and off-site improvements; and (2) a Vesting Tentative Subdivision Map to subdivide the 112-acre parcel into 25 parcels consisting of: 22 residential lots ranging in size from 44,188 square feet and 51,601 square feet; two common lots owned by a future homeowners' association; and an Open Space/Agricultural parcel with a conservation easement retained by the Spotorno family.

- Parklets

Review a potential parklet program downtown and provide a recommendation to the City Council.

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

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Falcons reflect after close loss in NCS football title game

‘Heads up boys — you gave the Foothill community one heck of season’

Foothill's 21-14 loss to Campolindo on Saturday in the North Coast Section Division II football championship is a game, or more importantly a moment, the players on Foothill will never forget.

It has nothing to do with the result or a specific play during the game, but rather the brotherhood/sisterhood that sports provide for a young man or woman.

The game was not the crispest game for the Falcons, but there they were with the ball inside the Campo 10-yard line with a chance to tie or win it in the final minute of the game.

Foothill fell just short of the win, but what I saw next is what the play-

ers will always look back on fondly.

After the game, the Falcons had to stay on the field for the awards ceremony, getting their second-place medals and pennant. Then they stood there, respectfully, and watched Campolindo celebrate on the Foothill field.

After the game I walked up to the area around the Foothill locker room where my wife — a staff member at Foothill — had to wait until the last Falcon player left.

Slowly the dejected players left one by one until only five or six remained. Having known these players for four years, I had a pretty good idea who was left.

Time went on and my wife was asking me to go into the Foothill team room and move the players along so we could go home. I told her to wait for a bit as these players needed the time to talk. Even though the conversation, which I could hear, centered on the game, there was more to it than just that. This was their last time putting on their pads and battling on the field as teammates.

If you have never played sports, it is impossible to grasp the magnitude of the moment. This is not a moment only the Foothill players experience, but it's something for all schools and all sports.

You spend four years of being with the same group of teammates, and it is not something you want to let go but want to hold on to as long as possible.

One game and it is all over. You don't want to leave your teammates and friends — you want to keep that moment in perpetuity.

I finally walked into the team room, and it was exactly as expected. Kenny Olson, Nick Walsh and Connor Perez were joined by Noah Lombardi, Noah Lammle and Anthony Tahir.

They were just hanging out, em-



NATALIE WALSH

Key players for the Falcons during their run to the NCS title game included (from left) Kenny Olson, Nick Walsh and Connor Perez.

bracing the final time they would be sitting in the Foothill team room together as teammates.

That right there is the unseen value of athletics for high school athletes. The bonds you build will never be replaced. Wins are great, losses sting, but brotherhood and sisterhood are what matters most.

Obviously, the loss in the championship stings and will for some time, but these players have a bond that will never go away.

When I walked in and asked the boys if I could please take my wife home, they jumped up and got their stuff together. I didn't expect anything else, and I felt compelled to tell them all that if I had to pick a team to announce in my last year of calling Foothill football games, I was honored that it was their team.

And I meant it.

Heads up boys — you gave the Foothill community one heck of season. Remember, always embrace the bonds you formed this year. It will put a smile on your face for the rest of your life.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons opened the season with a convincing 71-42 win over Woodside on Saturday.

Missing starting center Colin Wallace due to injury, the Dons were able to get some playing time for all players who dressed.

The Dons led 25-12 at the end of the first quarter, then 36-21 at the break. If there was any doubt, Amador knocked down five straight 3-pointers in the third to put it out of reach.

Tyler Cheng and Colton Cash each finished with 12 points for the Dons. ■

Grab a front row seat to local high school sports

The Playbook gives you an in-depth look at what's going on in prep sports.

Every Tuesday, veteran sports writer Dennis Miller emails you exclusive insights into:

- Season and game previews that tell you what to look for and what's at stake
- Profiles of interesting coaches and athletes
- Post-game analysis
- Entertaining features
- Local sports trends

TRI-VALLEY PREPS PLAYBOOK

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Music

MOTOWN EXPLOSION CHRISTMAS

Gary Vecchiarelli Productions-Las Vegas presents Motown Explosion Christmas, with master of ceremonies Manee Valentine. This 14-piece big band with five singers performs all the favorite hits. 8 p.m., Dec. 3, Bankhead Theater. Visit livermorearts.org.

CREATURES OF IMPULSE PRESENTS: HOLIDAY SHORTS

This interactive Holiday Improv Show at the Firehouse Arts Center includes audience suggestions, inspired holiday-themed games and improv fun. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 3. Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org/events.

SYMPHONIC SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Livermore-Amador Symphony presents Symphonic Sounds of the Season at the Bankhead Theater. Harpist Constance Koo joins the symphony to perform Debussy's beautiful and intimate Danses sacrée et profane. 8:15 p.m., Dec. 4. Visit livermorearts.org.

JOY TO THE WORLD: A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL JOURNEY

Damien Sneed takes the audience through original arrangements of gospel, jazz and classical favorites. Ten singers and musicians deliver holiday classics plus excerpts from Handel's Messiah. 3 p.m., Dec. 5. Visit livermorearts.org.

VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Tri-Valley's premier chorus for over 50 years returns to live performances for the holiday concert "Carols, Glorias and Lullabies". From traditional carols to familiar choruses, the concert sets a holiday mood of comfort and joy. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 10-11. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

A VERY "FOLLIES" HOLIDAY

Join the Golden Follies at the Firehouse Arts Center as these talented and energetic senior performers brighten the holiday season. Lively choreography, heartwarming music, reindeer, snowflakes and more. 2 p.m., Dec. 11. Visit firehousearts.org.

CANTABELLA CHILDREN'S CHORUS

Revolving around the theme "Silent Night, Jubilant Night," the concert repertoire includes a variety of Christmas medleys infused with holiday cheer. 1 and 4 p.m., Dec. 11, Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Pkwy., Pleasanton. Visit cantabella.org/concert

SAN RAMON SYMPHONIC BAND - HOLIDAY WINDS

This beloved holiday tradition is for kids and adults of all ages. 7 p.m., Dec. 17. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center. Visit tickets.sanramon.ca.gov.

VALLEY DANCE THEATRE PRESENTS: THE NUTCRACKER

Experience the magic of the Nutcracker enchanting audiences of all ages with its elegance and beauty. Bankhead Theater, Dec. 11-12 & 17 & 19. Visit livermorearts.org.

A FUNKY AND SOULFUL CHRISTMAS

Jeff Bordes & Friends return to the

Firehouse Arts Center for a fun, funky & soulful twist on Christmas favorites. 8 p.m., Dec. 18. Visit firehousearts.org.

NOCHEBUENA: CHRISTMAS EVE IN MEXICO

The acclaimed Ballet Folklórico de Los Angeles and Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuéllar brings together an all-star cast of music and dance in a dazzling presentation of the traditions and customs celebrated by the people in Mexico during the Christmas season. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 20, Bankhead Theater. Visit livermorearts.org.

For The Holidays

WIDMER WORLD

Presented by the Widmer family in Pleasanton, organizers are creating new scenes and lighting for the display at 3671 Chelsea Court, weather permitting, now through Jan. 5. Visit widmer-world.com.

DEACON DAVE'S IN LIVERMORE

The 38th annual "Deacon Dave's Christmas Display" opens Dec. 3. Opening ceremonies begin at 6:30 p.m. with the annual Christmas Procession down Hillcrest Ave. For the display this year, attendees must wear masks. Visit casadelpomba.com.

HOLIDAY VILLAGE AT CARNEGIE PARK

A magical evening of holiday cheer at Carnegie Park in Livermore with local makers and artists, holiday treats, entertainment and a visit from Santa. 4-8 p.m., Dec. 3. Visit livermoredowntown.com.

PLEASANTON HOMETOWN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The Hometown Holiday Celebration "Light up Pleasanton" is back again this year. The parade goes down Main Street with the tree lighting ceremony to follow in front of Museum on Main. 5 p.m., Dec. 4.

LIVERMORE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS PARADE

With over 50 floats and marching bands, the parade ends with Santa himself, leading the community in the official tree lighting. Rain or shine. 6 p.m., Dec. 4. Visit livermoredowntown.com.

CHANUKAH UNDER THE STARS

Join for a public menorah lighting in front of the Bankhead Theater. Holiday treats, snacks and live music. Free and open to the public. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 4. 2400 First St, Livermore. Visit JewishTriValley.com.

HOLIDAY CAMPFIRE

Join Ranger Dawn and sit by the campfire, sing songs and celebrate the Christmas holiday. Bring a hot dog and fixins' to roast over the fire; marshmallows and hot chocolate provided. RSVP to 925 960-2400 or email dsoles@larpd.org. 4 p.m., Dec. 4, Sycamore Grove Park, 5035 Arroyo Rd.

ONLINE HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. through Dec. 6, join each night

of Hanukkah to light candles and celebrate the Festival of Lights together. Each evening will be hosted by different members of the Congregation Beth Emek community. Visit bethemek.org.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING STROLL

Shop local at the Pleasanton Senior Center for books and beautifully handcrafted gifts. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 9. 5353 Sunol Blvd.

RAVENSWOOD VICTORIAN YULETIDE

Join this historical site for a holiday tradition of Victorian Christmas decorations, docent tours, a holiday gift shop and more. Free admission for all ages. 12-4 p.m., Dec. 12. 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

VISITS WITH SANTA AT CITY CENTER BISHOP RANCH

Santa has been fully vaccinated and little guests will have a bench next to Santa's throne. 12-4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, through Dec. 19. Alexander Square, 6000 Bollinger Canyon Rd.

PHOTOS WITH SANTA AT STONERIDGE MALL

The ultimate holiday tradition is back: Photos with Santa at Stoneridge Shopping Center. Now through Dec. 24. For reservations visit simon.com.

Exhibits

ITALIAN MOSAIC AT THE BANKHEAD THEATER

The Bankhead presents, The 50 Faces Collection Italian Mosaic, an exhibit of contemporary mosaic artwork from the Scuola Mosaicisti del Friuli in Italy. The public is invited to experience this free remarkable exhibit 1-5 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, through Jan 16. 2400 First St.

Support Groups

ALAN HU FOUNDATION WEBINAR

Dr. Lauren Asarnow presents a webinar to discuss sleep as a potential target for intervention in the prevention and treatment of mental and physical health. This free webinar, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Dec. 7, includes 15 minutes for questions and answers. RSVP by Dec. 6 at alanhufoundation.org.

HOPE HOSPICE-HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS

For those grieving the death of a loved one, the winter holiday season can be painful. Via Zoom, the Hope Hospice Handling the Holidays Workshop will discuss healthy coping strategies. Register by calling 925-829-8770. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Dec. 7.

FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

For those looking for support and information on how to cope with an adult loved one's mental illness, NAMI Tri-Valley offers a twice-monthly Family Support Group that is free with no registration required. Contact marsha@nami-trivalley.org or call 980-5331. 7-8:30 p.m., Dec. 13.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Meet Goggles

Gorgeous Goggles is generally good with having things on her own terms. This golden-orange and white gal is 3.5 years old and gets attention how she would like — she may be grateful to stay inside or even go outside. If you're grinning at the thought of an independent addition, get going! Learn more about Goggles and other cats and dogs at valleyhumane.org.

Talks

GARDEN CLUB TALK ON HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club members and guests will learn about the joys of DIY holiday decorating at the next virtual meeting, "Holiday Arrangements." with Lynn MacFarland, a National Garden Club Master Judge. 7 p.m., Dec. 9. Contact: jstarkhome@comcast.net.

WRITERS CLUB-TRI VALLEY BRANCH

Audience submissions will demonstrate how audiobook specialists communicate the writer's vision in, "He Said, She Said. We Said." RSVP by Dec. 15. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

Seniors

TECH TUTORING FOR SENIORS

One hour, one-on-one tutoring sessions are available at the Pleasanton Senior Center. 10 or 11 a.m., Dec. 6 and 13. Bring your device to the session. Call 925-931-5365.

HOLIDAY JAZZ JUBILEE FOR SENIORS

LARPD is offering a very special holiday event for the 50+ crowd, welcoming the Magnolia Jazz Band performing renditions of upbeat holiday classics. Wear festive or whimsical attire while enjoying hot cocoa and light snacks. 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m., Dec. 15. \$10R/\$12NR. Visit larpd.org.

Government

PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL

The Pleasanton City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of the month, currently held virtually. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Dec. 7. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next teleconference meeting is 7 p.m., Dec 8. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. Meetings of the Board will be virtual via Zoom until further

notice. The next meeting is 6 p.m., Dec. 9. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE PLANNING COMMISSION

The next regular Livermore Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Dec. 7, held virtually using zoom. For questions contact The City of Livermore Planning Division 925-960-4450.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL

The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Dec. 13. Visit cityoflivermore.net.

LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Regular Board Meeting will be conducted via Zoom Webinar and members of the public are encouraged to observe and participate remotely. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Dec. 14. Visit livermoreschools.org.

Top news and local hot picks



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HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 7-10 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Oct. 25-29 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 4366 1st Street** Allen Trust to M. & L. Tarachand for \$979,000
- 1369 Briones Court** Klessel Family Trust Of 2018 to P. & R. Swaminathan for \$2,915,000
- 7635 Canyon Meadow Circle #D C.** & P. Scarpelli to N. Lam for \$680,000
- 4149 Cortina Court** K. Ryu to N. & X. Bi for \$950,000
- 4330 Fairlands Drive** S. Lahiri to G. & R. Pachika for \$1,190,000
- 4517 Fisher Court** Mashhoon Living Trust to G. & E. Arreola for \$1,370,000
- 7373 Joshua Circle** D. Ren to A. & M. Karthikeyan for \$1,380,000
- 3504 Kamp Drive** Alvilarr Living Trust to D. & S. Biyyapu for \$1,060,500

- 3310 West Las Positas Boulevard** J. & J. Chavez to N. & S. Hanzra for \$1,800,000
- 8170 Mountain View Drive #E C.** Gong to I. & D. Oliver for \$510,000
- 873 Saint John Court** Z. Chen to D. & D. Piste for \$1,560,000
- 839 Summit Creek Lane** Klein Trust to Rahul Trust for \$2,700,000
- 2344 Tanager Drive** Holke Living Trust to B. & S. Rajarao for \$1,475,000
- 1533 Trimmingham Drive** C. Stotts to J. & X. Sun for \$1,217,500
- 7222 Valley View Court** Harper Family Trust to C. & A. Chaturvedi for \$1,085,000
- 2213 Via Espada** Gates Trust to L. & Y. Liu for \$1,896,000
- 2592 Willowren Way** Kristiansen Trust to K. & K. Trindel for \$1,705,000
- 4255 Zevanove Court** C. & R. Fernando to F. & U. Jatoi for \$943,000

Livermore

- 6240 Altamar Circle** A. & L. Zuckerman to A. & M. Mathew for \$1,200,000
- 849 Bower Court** Ni 1998 Trust to T. & S. Lin for \$909,000
- 2290 Chateau Way** R. Mongarro to L. & P. Liu for \$1,160,000
- 1172 Dunsmuir Place** Simpson Family Trust to F. Srivastava for \$1,760,000
- 2001 Galloway Common** Hadley Trust to Lang Trust for \$660,000
- 4548 Kimberley Common** Nelson Trust to A. & D. Malone for \$989,000
- 560 North M Street** L. & M. Mitchell to Valley Home Offers LLC for \$550,000
- 46 Meritage Common #200 J.** Alviso to Dugyala Family Trust for \$751,500
- 5689 Mollie Circle** M. & D. Viano to R. & A. Shah for \$1,470,000
- 889 Old Oak Road** Marital Trust to Timothy Trust for \$1,250,000
- 2956 Patcham Common** K. & M. Coombs to J. Morrow for \$899,000
- 472 Persimmon Common #8** K. & P. Koligian to V. Joly for \$950,000
- 3915 Pestana Way** M. Aoto to Hester Family Trust for \$935,000
- 922 Roma Street** E. & N. Ballecer to S. & A. Khatri for \$1,690,000
- 6166 Saint Andrews Way** R. & M. Cole to S. & C. Delasliagas for \$1,160,000
- 741 Sandpiper Common** D. Malone to O. & S. Ramos for \$650,000
- 175 Selby Lane #8** Bellini Trust to A. & S. Green for \$705,000
- 2386 Spyglass Hills Road** M. & P. Barrow to M. & P. Zamora for \$1,170,000
- 1425 Sunset Drive** D. & J. Briseno to M. Webb for \$835,000
- 865 Tranquility Circle #9** S. Luo to I. & S. Jang for \$845,000
- 1754 Vancouver Way** E. & J. Muir to E. & C. Bruton for \$1,320,000

- 11353 Bloomington Way** A. & V. Bhaskarwar to S. & R. Asati for \$1,810,000
- 4815 Brannigan Street** J. Daswani to Li Trust for \$1,150,000
- 7200 Burton Street** Delucia Living Trust to B. Suresh for \$1,080,000
- 6953 Cedar Lane** A. Mohammad to K. & M. Ramirez for \$1,195,000
- 3325 Central Parkway** J. Ni to V. & P. Bavishi for \$1,160,000
- 7932 Crossridge Road** A. Akhtar to P. & R. Lolage for \$1,545,000
- 6978 Dublin Meadows Street #G** R. Kunich to B. Dang for \$460,000
- 3420 Finnian Way #319** Eternal Ent LLC to Y. & K. Arthurs for \$705,000
- 4376 Fitzwilliam Street** J. Su to S. & S. Santhanam for \$855,000.00
- 6950 Lancaster Road** Melendez Trust to S. & N. Mani for \$950,000
- 8631 Longford Way** S. Haddad to S. & J. Dhiman for \$1,240,000
- 8206 Rhoda Avenue** V. & S. Pradhan to R. Castro for \$1,268,500
- 4645 Rimini Court #66** K. & L. Putt to R. & V. Palanlappan for \$1,190,000
- 4149 Sola Court** Kamimura Trust to B. & S. Ghimire for \$1,500,000
- 7319 Starward Drive #43** Hong Trust to W. Chang for \$570,000
- 7323 Starward Drive #7** Bhatia Trust to S. Kenna for \$405,000
- 4409 Sunset View Drive** S. Naware to T. & V. Jain for \$1,730,500
- 7774 Tuscany Drive #33** M. & S. Ochoa to L. & T. Pulagala for \$768,000
- 10727 Wallace Lane** J. & M. Ballard to R. & P. Kaberval for \$940,000
- 5437 Waterperry Place** Chopra Trust to V. & M. Tare for \$1,436,000
- 3678 Whitworth Drive** S. Muddu to S. & D. Kapa for \$1,206,000

- 114 Aptos Court** L. Johnson to F. & L. Keller for \$1,200,000
- 20112 Argento Loop** Faria Preserve LLC to M. Beronilla for \$173,500
- 1254 Bellingham Square** Chu Family Trust to G. & V. Akella for \$2,430,000
- 9540 Brockton Avenue** Bowen Trust to B. & B. Gangatharan for \$1,310,500
- 146 Copper Ridge Road** C. Perez to D. Kwong for \$535,000
- 408 Deerhill Drive** Obrien Living Trust to S. & S. Gottimukkala for \$1,620,000
- 3393 Ensenada Drive** Selland Family Trust to C. & A. Ravi for \$1,370,000
- 48 Grand Canyon Court** Pirrone Trust to A. & D. Shabes for \$2,200,000
- 4933 Ivyleaf Springs Road** Hashem Family Trust to S. & S. Pandanaboyana for \$1,615,000
- 2655 Marsh Drive** Cartus Financial to E. & G. Ng for \$1,000,000
- 2607 Marsh Drive** R. Janes to J. & J. Zuegner for \$875,000
- 2671 Marsh Drive** S. & J. Tippins to B. Baasanbat for \$995,000
- 18 Milburn Court** C. Eitner to M. & P. Shanbhag for \$1,470,000
- 3038 Montevideo Drive** S. Lee to T. & L. Yan for \$1,690,000
- 274 South Overlook Drive** G. Becker to L. Bronina for \$517,000
- 404 South Overlook Drive #244** Sudhir Trust to E. & M. Payrovi for \$699,000
- 801 Pipers Brook Court** M. Zhang to Semwal Family Trust for \$2,415,000
- 2751 Salisbury Way** X. Wang to N. & C. Sadanala for \$1,965,000
- 1110 Trumpet Vine Lane** S. Sakhamuri to C. & Y. Lyu for \$1,620,000
- 544 Van Buren Place** S. Alper to W. Fung for \$1,000,000
- 9582 Velvet Leaf Circle** R. Pang to Mamidi Gade Trust for \$2,650,000
- 38108 Via Vicenza** Faria Preserve LLC to D. Baker for \$173,500

Source: California REsource

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

YING YING SUN; WHITE LOTUS SPA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 583850
The following person doing business as: YING YING SUN; WHITE LOTUS SPA, 2827 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Kathleen's Beauty Company, 111 West 3rd Avenue, Apt. 204, San Mateo, CA 94402, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Kathleen's Beauty Company, a Corporation. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein October 13, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Ying Ying Sun, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 21, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 19, 26, December 3, 10, 2021.)

Neighborhood Sports Bar & Kitchen FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 584367
The following person doing business as: Neighborhood Sports Bar & Kitchen, 234 Main Street, Suite B, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner, Scott M. Larson, LLC, 3614 Carlsbad Way, Pleasanton, CA, 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Scott M. Larson, LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein November 1, 2021. Signature of Registrant: Scott M. Larson, LLC, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021.)

Clean Sweep FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 584368
The following person doing business as: Clean Sweep, 4175 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Scott Larson, 3614 Carlsbad Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Scott Larson, an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name listed herein. Signature of Registrant: Scott Larson, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 15, 2021. (Pleasanton Weekly, December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021.)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: GLEN STANTON Case No.: RP21116491. To all heirs,

beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of GLEN STANTON, A Petition for Probate has been filed by: CINDY FIELDS in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that: CINDY FIELDS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on December 17, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., in Dept.: 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Glen L. Moss, 1297 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541, (510) 583-1155. (Pleasanton Weekly, November 19, 26, December 3, 2021.)

Call (925) 600-0840 for assistance with your legal advertising needs.

Dublin

- 5501 Apex Drive** Phatnani Trust to S. Katanguru for \$873,000

Employment

Sr. Technical Program Manager

ICE Mortgage Technology Inc. seeks Sr. Technical Program Manager in Pleasanton, CA to develop and own cross functional software development program plans that define planning, development, verification, operations, milestones, and quality of infrastructure and application development initiatives. Requires domestic and international travel up to 10% of the time. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com Ref: 92139

To place an ad or get a quote, call 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@pawekly.com.

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Sept. 7-10)

Total sales reported: 18
Lowest sale reported: \$510,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,915,000
Average sales reported: \$1,293,750

Livermore (Sept. 7-10)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$550,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,760,000
Average sales reported: \$950,000

Dublin (Sept. 7-10)

Total sales reported: 22
Lowest sale reported: \$405,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,810,000
Average sales reported: \$1,155,000

San Ramon (Oct. 25-29)

Total sales reported: 24
Lowest sale reported: \$173,500
Highest sale reported: \$2,650,000
Average sales reported: \$1,255,250

Source: California REsource

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Equal Housing Opportunity



WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

PLEASANTON VALLEY



JUST CLOSED

1546 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 2 BA | 1,790 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,460,000
(REPRESENTED BUYERS)

STONERIDGE



JUST CLOSED

7508 FLAGSTONE DRIVE, PLEASANTON

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,877 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,760,000

STONERIDGE



JUST CLOSED

4905 HILLCREST WAY, PLEASANTON

4 BS | 3 BA | 2,759 SF

SOLD FOR \$2,450,000
(REPRESENTED BUYER)

ROSE PARK



JUST CLOSED

1564 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,900 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,350,000

IRONWOOD



SOLD

1428 BRIONES LANE, PLEASANTON

5 BD | 4.5 BA | 3,900 SF

SOLD FOR \$3,025,000
(REPRESENTED BUYER)

PLEASANTON OAK PARK



SOLD

325 LONE OAK DRIVE, PLEASANTON

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,600 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,260,000

ROSE PARK



SOLD

1558 POPPYBANK COURT, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,900 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,280,000

VINTAGE HILLS



SOLD

529 MALBEC COURT, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 2.5 BA | 2,050 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,560,000

VINTAGE HILLS



SOLD

802 CRELLIN ROAD, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 3 BA | 1,942 SF

SOLD FOR \$1,675,000

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



VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE

Santa Claus is Coming to P-Town



YOU ARE INVITED! This weekend we're kicking off the holiday season! Keep an eye out for our famous float at the Hometown Holiday Parade on Saturday at 5pm. We'll be sure to give you a wave! On Sunday from 12-4pm you'll be able to meet and take pictures with Santa Claus at our event at Rubino Winery at 1188 Vineyard Avenue in Pleasanton, catered by Two Board Sisters. We can't wait to ring in the holiday season with you, delicious food, wine, and pictures with **SANTA!**



Liz Venema
VENEMA HOMES TEAM



VenemaHomes.com | Liz@VenemaHomes.com | 925.413.6544 | 660 Main Street, Pleasanton | DRE# 01922957