

Pleasanton Weekly

Art that put
Bay Area on map

Page 15

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A culinary showcase



Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week celebrates local food and drink | Page 12

- 5 | **NEWS** Teachers want PUSD to reopen contract talks
- 6 | **NEWS** Workers push to unionize downtown Starbucks
- 16 | **TRI-VALLEY LIFE** 'Caught in the Villain's Gaze'

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

The fentanyl fight

Death can happen in an instant. A decision that saves your life can happen just as fast. So take the time to make the right one.

That's my takeaway from the powerful public service announcement recently produced by the Livermore Police Department about the local realities of the international illicit fentanyl scourge.

The PSA video is targeted toward teens in high school, but it has the power to impact anyone who watches. It centers on an emotional interview with Judy Burescia, whose daughter Correen O'Rourke, a Granada High School alumna, died from a fentanyl-related overdose in 2019.

"I felt compelled to tell my story and my daughter's story in this way because there is such a great need for everyone to know the dangers of fentanyl in our lives now. It is vital that kids realize it is a matter of life or death. Not just about getting high or drunk," Burescia told me in an email interview over the weekend.

"What kind of mother would I be if I sat back and did nothing or said nothing about this. Her death has to have some good meaning in all its sadness. So if it can save one or more child or adult by speaking out, then that is what I have to do," Burescia said.

The CDC's "Stop Overdose" webpage provides an insightful overview of fentanyl, a synthetic opioid said to be "up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine."

There's pharmaceutical fentanyl (which many of us or our family members have been introduced to by prescription), and then there's illicitly manufactured fentanyl, which on its own or laced in other drugs is increasingly popular on the illegal market due to its heroin-like effect. It's also a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses, according to the CDC.

"We've heard of increased numbers of fentanyl deaths across the country. While our numbers in Livermore might not be alarming, one death is too many. We hope by educating our community, they can make informed choices to prevent deaths. Even if we have one death, it's a tragedy just like the story that was highlighted in the PSA," Livermore Police Chief Jeramy Young told me.

Many in the Tri-Valley no doubt

remember the particularly terrible incidents recently that have grabbed headlines, such as the toddler in Livermore who died last year after allegedly ingesting her father's fentanyl.

But the personal tragedies landing below the public radar can hit home with just as much impact. That's the power of the Livermore police PSA and Burescia's words.

The nearly six-minute video produced entirely by LPD communications staff opens with a dramatic montage of TV news reporters, photographs and internet screen-grabs of the "nationwide disaster" of fentanyl-related overdoses before zeroing in on local news articles related to Tri-Valley cases.

The focus then shifts to a poignant sitdown interview with Burescia interspersed with photos and videos from Correen's life.

Burescia shares how her daughter became addicted to drugs and alcohol as a young adult, but was compelled to change her life after giving birth. Traces of heroin in the otherwise healthy newborn forced Correen into rehabilitation before being able to retain her child.

"She was back to her old self again," Burescia says in the video with a little smile, remembering her daughter's initial recovery. "For 3-1/2 years, she was doing OK."

"To this day, I don't know why or how she started to use again. And unfortunately, and in one use, she died," Burescia says. "We had to wait for the autopsy and it said there was fentanyl in there. That's what killed her. She doesn't even know she's gone; she used it, she stopped breathing and that's what fentanyl does. It's just a tiny, tiny grain of sand ... and you're dead."

She ends the PSA with a message for high schoolers enticed by dangerous drugs like illicit fentanyl. "It's that initial, very first time you're tempted: You have to say no."

The PSA was shown to Livermore High School's entire student population on Feb. 22 at the urging of principal Helen Gladden.

"The video discusses a fentanyl overdose that took place right here in Livermore, with a clear message that it can — and has — happened in our own city," Gladden told me. "Our hope is that this will spur conversations within our community so that we can all work to keep our youth safe. Knowledge is power." ■

About the Cover

A sampling of the offerings at Dumpling Time in City Center Bishop Ranch during Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week. Photo by Deborah Grossman. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXIV, Number 7



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How do you feel about being required to physically go into your office these days, instead of being able to continue working remotely?



Christine Mitine
Communications manager

I have mixed emotions because I really appreciate the value of in-person collaboration. It's a really great reason to go into the office. But at the same time, the commute to and from work adds additional strain, stress and expense to the workday that had pretty much disappeared during COVID.



Abraham Satten
Systems analyst

My employer actually is not forcing people to come back into the office but is instead leaving it optional and up to each employee to decide if and when they want to be at work in-person. I go in frequently because based upon the nature of my work and projects, I find it more productive to interact face-to-face with my colleagues than remotely/virtually.



Sagar Joshi
Software engineer

My company does not have an office here on the West Coast so I've been working remotely for years, long before COVID made remote working a necessity. I really wish I had an office locally that my employer was encouraging me to go into because I miss being with people during my workday.



Daren Law
Industrial designer

I'm not loving it. I honestly feel as though I can be far more productive when I'm working from home because there are so many fewer distractions. Forcing people to come into the office and lose hours of their day just getting there and back just makes very little sense to me.



Corinne Tompkins
Office manager

I'm so happy about it. I enjoy going into an office because I like my co-workers and spending time with them. But these days when I go in, there is often almost no one else there, which is disappointing. Depressing even. Before COVID my office was a bustling, stimulating environment, but now the space often seems like a ghost town. I'm really glad my employer is insisting people come into the office at least three days a week.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

State of the City

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown is set to deliver her State of the City address during a luncheon event organized by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce on March 29 at the Palm Event Center.

"It is an honor to reflect and acknowledge the achievements we have made together over the past year, as we set our sights on a strategic and sustainable future," Brown said in a statement. "I hope to see many of our Pleasanton residents and businesses at the event to hear about ongoing projects and exciting initiatives that ensure the city's continued progress in the years to come."

Tickets remain available for the event, at \$75 per person, with the registration deadline this week, according to the chamber. The event begins with networking at 11 a.m., followed by the lunch and program at 11:45 a.m. To learn more, visit www.pleasanton.org.

A video-recording is also typically broadcast after the fact on Tri-Valley Community Television.

St. Pat's Brew Crawl

Downtown Pleasanton is ready to tap into the luck of the Irish next weekend as the St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl returns.

Officials with the Pleasanton Downtown Association, which organizes the event, said, "We are excited to see you downtown for this spirited event. Please join us on March 18 for 20-plus beers, live Celtic music, food, revelry and more!"

The event, which encourages people to wear the traditional green of St. Patrick's Day, is set to run from 5-8 p.m. next Saturday (March 18) in downtown. Open to adults 21 years old and older, tickets are available at pleasantondowntown.net.

LPC open house

Las Positas College in Livermore is hosting an open house later this month for prospective students, their families, adult learners, military veterans and community members to learn more about the campus and its programs.

"Informational sessions will provide an overview of the college's academic programs, student services and support systems. Campus tours will allow attendees to see the college's modern classrooms, labs and other facilities," officials said, adding that the event "will feature demonstrations, live music and food trucks, making it a fun and enjoyable experience for all ages."

The open house is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 25. Visit www.laspositascollege.edu. ■

Teachers plead with district to reopen contract negotiations on compensation

PUSD management not prepared to change 2022-23 contract, looks ahead to next year's labor talks

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

After a month of teachers pleading with district officials during public meetings, the Association of Pleasanton Teachers might have to wait until 2023-24 to improve the salary and benefit compensation.

The Pleasanton Unified School District negotiating team is not prepared to reopen the 2022-23 contract that the APT ratified last year, but they are eager to return to the table for next year's negotiation process, according to PUSD director of communications Patrick Gannon.

"We acknowledge the concerns raised by our teachers regarding benefits and cost of living," Gannon told the Weekly on Tuesday.

"We are ready to return to the negotiating table and are interested in negotiating a pathway to increase existing benefits to employees," he said. "We are now engaged in negotiations for 2023-2024 where we expect a total compensation increase."

The concerns over compensation

were raised in public comment by several APT members during the Feb. 9 school board meeting, where over 300 supporters showed up, and during the Feb. 23 meeting, where dozens also voiced the need for PUSD to invest in their teachers who might be struggling to make ends meet.

"One of the district's organizational goals is to recruit and retain a highly qualified workforce and goal No. 4 of Pleasanton's (Human Resource Department's) divisional goals is to retain 90% of all staff for the 2023-24 school year. Not valuing our educators by not paying them a fair return for their work that they do, doesn't retain highly qualified teachers in Pleasanton," said Erin Salcido, a first grade teacher at Alisal Elementary School, during the public speaker portion of the Feb. 23 board meeting.

"Rather, it leads to a mass exodus of teachers leaving the district and a decline in quality programs Pleasanton teachers can offer to their students," Salcido added.

Last May, both sides approved

a new collective bargaining agreement between the district and the teachers association that included a 3.5% salary increase and new health benefits.

The contract, which is open for negotiations every three years, covers the next three academic years, with a one-year settlement for the 2022-23 portion of the agreement and health benefits for employees in line with CalPERS health benefits — a maximum of \$5,000 including all CalPERS-required contributions.

Teachers union and district representatives negotiate salary, calendar and benefits every year, and each side of the negotiations teams gets the opportunity to open to articles in the contract to renegotiate.

But according to Cheryl Atkins, president of the teachers union, while those benefits that APT had agreed to last year were acceptable, it was still not enough.

"All APT members received 3.5% of a salary increase, all members were offered \$5,000 towards medical — which is only taken

by about 26% of our members — others received cash in lieu of \$1,500, which will increase to \$2,000 next year," Atkins told the Weekly. "While the \$5,000 money for benefits was certainly appreciated and needed by our members, medical benefits increased by 11%, so they did not feel an increase in their paychecks."

She added that the last two years of the negotiation process was "long and contentious", and when that process ended last November, both the district and the union agreed "to come to the table to bargain for the 2022-23 school year with a focus on getting to an agreement in a timely manner."

And for the time being, that is what had happened.

Back in December, both parties signed a memorandum of understanding to clarify the language in their contract regarding calculating time off for personal or medical reasons. This was after APT sunshined — which is another way of saying it reopened — the

See **TEACHERS** on Page 10

Emerald High unveils new mascot

'Aerouants' symbolize strength, good luck and courage

By NICOLE GONZALES

After months of debate, Dublin's new second high school has officially announced its mascot, as well as the accompanying school colors.

Emerald High School students will now be known as "Aerouants" — sporting green, blue and white. Francis Rojas, principal of the under-construction campus, revealed the official mascot for the school at a recent meeting of the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees.

Aerouant comes from the ancient Celtic word for dragon and is known to symbolize good luck, health and strength. In the announcement, district officials said the Aerouant also ties in with the city of Dublin's Irish roots and is representative of the region's increasing Asian population.

Aerouants are mythical creatures, similar to dragons or serpents. They have typically been characterized as intelligent, proud and fierce.

Rojas spoke about the mascot choice and his thoughts on what



Logo for Emerald High School mascot, the Aerouants. Coming from the ancient Celtic word for dragon, Aerouants represent good luck, health and strength.

it will represent for the school.

"It symbolizes great strength and courage, something I hope will represent the school. We're thrilled to have announced our

new mascot to the community,"

he said. "Aerouants are known to be extremely clever and

See **MASCOT** on Page 7

Dublin selects Schmidt as top cop

Commander has worked 23-plus years for sheriff's office

By JEREMY WALSH

Cmdr. Nathan "Nate" Schmidt, who has worked the majority of his nearly 25-year Alameda County Sheriff's Office career with Dublin Police Services, has been appointed to become the city's next police chief, effective later this month.

Dublin City Manager Linda Smith, who made the final hiring decision under the terms of the city's contract for police services with the sheriff's office, publicly confirmed Schmidt's selection on March 2. Schmidt will succeed current Police Chief Garrett Holmes, who announced his upcoming retirement from law enforcement two weeks ago.

See **SCHMIDT** on Page 6

Starbucks workers push to unionize downtown store

Petition filed with federal agency

Workers at the downtown Pleasanton Starbucks store are trying to unionize.

The employees at the store want to join the Starbucks Workers United union, like employees at three other Bay Area stores and others nationwide, organizers said last Friday.

Employees — or partners as they are also called at the store, located at Main Street and Rose Avenue — filed a petition Friday with the National Labor Relations Board to unionize.

Workers said in a letter to Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz that they received an unexplained cut in hours and are finding it challenging to pay their bills. The employees also feel their needs are being neglected regularly.

“We are unionizing because we have tried everything else,” said Elise Lester, a partner and organizer at the Pleasanton store. “It is time we have a say in decisions that directly affect us and our livelihoods.”

Starbucks’ corporate office did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the action by the Pleasanton store’s workers. ■

—Keith Burbank, Bay City News



CHUCK DECKERT

Employees at this Starbucks shop on Main Street have filed a petition with federal regulators to pursue unionization.



SCHMIDT

Continued from Page 5

“I am very excited to have the opportunity to return to Dublin Police Services as police chief,” Schmidt said in a statement released by the city.

“Chief Holmes developed strong foundational principles and community partnerships, providing a great example to follow to ensure Dublin Police continues to provide the best service to the community,” Schmidt added. “Police-community partnerships are most successful when the two support one another. I also hope to stay on the cutting edge of technology, giving our staff the best tools possible to be efficient and successful in keeping Dublin safe.”

Schmidt, who recently worked as a captain with DPS for six years, will start the job as police chief on March 19.



Nathan Schmidt

A Tri-Valley native, Schmidt grew up in Livermore and graduated from Granada High School before going on to attend the University of California, Davis, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

He began his law enforcement career as a sheriff’s deputy in Alameda County in September 1999. His early years included assignments at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin as well as with DPS as a patrol officer and later a detective.

Schmidt was elevated to sergeant while with DPS in December 2006, where he served as a patrol officer and detective sergeant.

A promotion to lieutenant followed at the end of 2011, leading to Schmidt to be reassigned to the Glenn E. Dyer Jail in Oakland and the Eden Township Station before he returned to Dublin as both the operations lieutenant and administrative lieutenant. He rose to the rank of captain in September 2016, shifting for a short time to Santa Rita Jail before returning to DPS.

At the beginning of this year, Schmidt was promoted to commander under the administration of new Sheriff-Coroner

Yesenia Sanchez, resulting in an assignment to the county’s Law Enforcement Services Division, which includes patrol for all unincorporated areas of Alameda County, AC Transit Police Services, Highland Hospital Police Services, Dispatch Services, and the Warrants and Records Division.

Schmidt then became a candidate for the Dublin police chief position after Holmes announced on Feb. 17 that he would be retiring on March 17 after more than five years at the helm and nearly 30 years in law enforcement overall.

The commander, who worked almost 18 years in Dublin of his 23-year career with the sheriff’s office, would ultimately become Smith’s top choice for the chief position.

“I’ve had the pleasure of working with Commander Schmidt for many years. His experience, leadership, and working knowledge of Dublin Police Services makes him the natural choice to lead the Department,” Smith said in a statement. “I am extremely pleased to welcome him back to Dublin.” ■

Dust Bowl Brewing bringing new taproom to Livermore

Central Valley-based brewery to open near outlets this summer

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore is set to become home to Dust Bowl Brewing Company's fourth taproom location in the state and its first in the Bay Area.

The Turlock-based brewing company is opening in the Shops at Livermore in early summer, across the street from the San Francisco Premium Outlets, according to a statement from the company.

Brett Tate — founder and co-owner of Dust Bowl — said that they were attracted to Livermore and specifically the Shops at Livermore complex for several reasons, including the opportunity to be close to the outlets.

"The building site is just steps away from the San Francisco Premium Outlets, where an average of 8 to 10 million visitors frequent annually. The clientele is a mix of locals and world travelers seeking that 'Americana' experience, which craft beer certainly fits. Livermore has an established craft beer culture that we're excited to be part of," Tate said, adding that they've distributed their beer in the area since 2015, so they've also established local brand recognition throughout the region.

Shops at Livermore owner Robert Himsl also expressed excitement about partnering with the brand.

"We are thrilled to bring Dust

Bowl Brewing Company, a family owned and operated business, to the Shops of Livermore," Himsl said. "This will be a fantastic addition, given Livermore's long history of successful breweries, wineries and food," he added.

In addition to its homebase in Turlock, Dust Bowl's other taprooms are located at the Tap Depot in Monterey and the Old Town Tap House in Elk Grove. The soon-to-come Livermore location will be the company's first in a new space as opposed to a historical building.

Co-owner Brett Honore said their team is looking forward to creating the layout and flow without the limitations that they've faced with older buildings. In the Shops at Livermore, the taproom will take an end position in the complex which opens to a large outdoor space. The interior offers

over 3,500 square feet, while the outdoor area provides 6,500 square feet.

"Guests will enjoy 30 taps of Dust Bowl beer and seltzers from the indoor/outdoor bar. The inside will offer traditional bar seating, rail bars, lounge settings and an oversized banquette. The exterior area will feature a covered patio, picnic table communal seating, and various seating vignettes along with firepits and corn hole on a turf area," Honore said.

The taproom will also offer food provided by resident food truck Wedo's Tacos. Their menu includes "elevated" tacos, gourmet burgers and shared plates.

Dust Bowl's Livermore taproom will be located at 3034 W. Jack London Blvd. Updates about their upcoming opening will be shared on Instagram @dustbowlbrewingco. ■



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Dust Bowl Brewing Company owners (from left) Brett and Karen Tate and Camy and Brett Honore at their new taproom location in Livermore, which is currently under renovation in preparation for a summer 2023 opening.

MASCOT

Continued from Page 5

intelligent as well."

The school's process in choosing a mascot has been a lengthy and collaborative one.

Last fall, the school had initially announced the mascot would be the Serpents, however parents expressed concerns over negative connotations associated with the creature.

Several meetings were held throughout December with district board members, parents and students regarding the mascot choice. A survey was sent out to incoming future students, over 900 voted to reconsider the mascot being updated.

Other mascot options included Tigers, Sabertooths and Wolfhounds. Each had varying color and design elements that students, parents and staff were able to vote on.

The final selection, Aerouants, was made. They will join the Gaels of Dublin High School and the Dragons of Valley High School, the district's continuation high school.

Emerald High, which is designed to serve the growing East Dublin community, is scheduled to see Phase I of construction complete by this December, according to district officials. To find out more about Emerald High's mascot and other news updates, visit the official website at ehs.dublinusd.org. ■



March 19, 2003, the United States along with coalition forces primarily from the United Kingdom, initiates war on Iraq.

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Glazer resigns from recently created BART support committee

Says Bay Area leaders are not committed to fiscal oversight

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

State Sen. Steve Glazer (D-Orinda) has stepped down from the Senate Select Committee on Bay Area Public Transit after only being on the panel for a matter of weeks.

Glazer, whose district includes the Tri-Valley, said the reason is because Bay Area leaders are not supporting the fiscal oversight of BART, according to a letter Glazer sent on Feb. 28 to Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) — who is the chair of the transit support committee.



Steve Glazer

"Bay Area leaders have not stepped up to fix the fiscal oversight problems with BART, as well as the underfunding of the Inspector General's Office," Glazer said in a separate press release. "When these problems are addressed, I will join with my colleagues and support greater transit funding."

Roughly two weeks ago, state lawmakers had created the select committee with the sole focus of finding ways to assist Bay Area public transit agencies that are still

suffering from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic including low ridership numbers compared to pre-pandemic.

The committee also includes state Sens. Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), Bill Dodd (D-Napa), Aisha Wahab (D-Fremont) and Mike Maguire (D-San Rafael).

Glazer, who is a longtime supporter of public transit while also a critic of BART upper management, went on to say in his letter that he is still concerned about the financial problems facing Bay Area transit systems but that the current status quo is unacceptable, which is why he left the committee.

"I recognize and support the pressing need for the state to invest in public transit agencies throughout the Bay Area given the financial uncertainty that looms over these systems," Glazer stated in his letter to Wiener. "However, there is no guarantee that these agencies will spend taxpayer dollars sensibly without adequate oversight of their expenditures."

He went on to point out the recent reports from the BART's inspector general — a position that Glazer helped create back in 2017 as part of a transportation bill

— regarding BART's financial mismanagement and defiance of voter-mandated oversight.

"In June 2022, an Alameda County Grand Jury found that BART's leadership had repeatedly blocked the inspector general's authority and autonomy," Glazer stated. "Specifically, the Grand Jury found that BART's board of directors and management engaged in a 'pattern of obstruction' that has impeded the inspector general's ability to conduct independent oversight and 'stymied (the Office of the Inspector General's) independence and the confidentiality of investigations.'"

According to the press release from Glazer's office, former State Auditor Elaine Howle found that the BART office "lacked the authority and independence necessary to do its job" just two months later.

Wiener said in a statement to the Weekly that while he agrees with Glazer in that accountability is important, he was still disappointed in his fellow senator's decision to resign effective immediately as he thinks the committee will be doing important work in the near future.

"Our select committee will be a

See **GLAZER** on Page 9

Rapper E-40 to headline fair concert series

Country star Joe Nichols, 3 tribute shows also announced so far

BY JEREMY WALSH

On a day when Bay Area concert announcements made national headlines, with the performer schedule unveiled for the 2023 Outside Lands festival in San Francisco, the Alameda County Fair got into the act by teasing some of the musicians booked for this year's summer showcase in Pleasanton.

Bay Area rap legend E-40 will headline the fair's Big O Tires Concert Series, with his show on June 29, fair officials said on Tuesday. The Vallejo-born artist is best known for his hits such as "Tell Me When to Go", "Sprinkle Me", "U and Dat" and "Automatic".

The other big name confirmed by the fair this week is Grammy-nominated country musician Joe Nichols, who will take the stage in Pleasanton on June 28. There will also be tribute acts for Mötley Crüe, George Michael and The Bee Gees — although those show dates weren't revealed yet.

The remaining concert acts will be tease-released throughout the month of March, according to Kristin LaPorte, director of marketing and business development for the fair. She also confirmed a change in



COURTESY ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

Bay Area legend E-40 is set to headline the Big O Tires Concert Series at the 2023 Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton.

concert-ticket policy for the fair this year.

"This year, the fair streamlined the concert ticketing system and Fair admission will not be included with concert admission," LaPorte said. "This change will allow guests to take advantage of discounted admission tickets on sale through June 15 and

promotion days to save during fair."

The 2023 Alameda County Fair is set to run from June 16 to July 9 at the fairgrounds in Pleasanton, open on Wednesdays through Sundays and closed on Mondays and Tuesdays except for July 3 and 4. To learn more, visit alamedacountyfair.com. ■

Grocery Outlet store coming to Dublin later this year

Taking over former Big Lots! location

By NICOLE GONZALES

A new grocery store will be coming to the city of Dublin later this year. The newly secured spot will mark the store's third location in the Tri-Valley.

Discount supermarket chain Grocery Outlet is expected to take over the former Big Lots! building located at 7991 Amador Valley Blvd. in West Dublin.

In an announcement via social media, the city expressed excitement over the new grocery store.

"We're excited to announce that Grocery Outlet will move into the former Big Lots! location later this year," officials

said. "Grocery Outlet is a local grocer that prides itself on offering deep discounts on the groceries customers love."

Local residents shared comments of anticipation and delight about the new business online.

This will make the third Grocery Outlet location in the Tri-Valley, with other storefronts in Pleasanton and Livermore.

Additional updates on the new store's status, including a confirmed opening date, are expected to come from city and Grocery Outlet press officials in the near future. ■

New county supervisor will be chosen by April 9

Applications open for District 2 vacancy created by Valle's death

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has until April 9 to decide who will fill the board's District 2 seat following the death of Supervisor Richard Valle last month, according to the county's top lawyer.

Valle died Feb. 8 from prostate cancer. It's the second death of a supervisor in less than 18 months. Supervisor Wilma Chan died in November 2021 after being hit by a car while crossing the street with her dog in Alameda.

The period to apply to be considered for appointment to supervisor for District 2 opened on March 1 and ends at 5 p.m. next Tuesday (March 14).

Applications can be picked up and returned at the Clerk of

the Board of Supervisors office on the fifth floor of the County Administration Building at 1221 Oak St. in Oakland. Applications can be submitted in-person only.

"While we will meet our statutory requirements to fill Supervisor Valle's seat, we will never be able to replace his tremendous role on our board," Board President Nate Miley said in a statement.

"As President of the Board of Supervisors, I am committed to a robust public appointment process that allows District 2 residents, stakeholders, community groups and our partners in organized labor an opportunity to provide their input on who best to represent them on the Board of Supervisors," Miley said.

If the board fails to choose a replacement for Valle, Gov. Gavin Newsom will choose.

Controversy surrounded the choice to fill Chan's seat. Following her death, the board appointed her chief of staff Dave Brown, and that appointment was challenged in court.

Brown did not run for supervisor in 2022 and Lena Tam replaced him when she won over Oakland at-large City Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan.

Current supervisors will choose three applicants who will be interviewed at a regular or special meeting of the board. A majority vote of the four current supervisors is needed to choose Valle's replacement. ■

—Keith Burbank, Bay City News

GLAZER

Continued from Page 8

prime opportunity for Legislators to get answers and hold our systems accountable for doing the best job possible for our region," Wiener told the Weekly.

"Our public transportation systems serve a huge number of Bay Area residents, including in my district and Senator Glazer's district and it's important for all of us to participate in the process, as our transit systems face an existential funding crisis and the very real prospect of entering a financial death spiral," Wiener added. "I have enormous respect for Senator Glazer, and he will have an open door to return to the committee if he chooses to do so."

He also said that it is inaccurate to suggest there is a lack of support for BART accountability because of the fact that Senate Bill 1488 overwhelmingly passed the legislature — with near-unanimous support from the Bay Area delegation — before being vetoed by the Gov. Gavin Newsom.

According to the SB 1488 text, it would have revised the duties and responsibilities of the inspector general by requiring them to engage in fraud prevention activities and provide recommendations to strengthen internal controls to prevent or detect fraud, waste, or abuse.

But whether Glazer will return to the committee is still up in the air as he stated that California legislators have to do more to ensure fiscal responsibility.

"As BART and other regional transit systems seek additional state funding to stave off upcoming fiscal problems, the legislature must ensure that the same systems spend public resources responsibly," Glazer stated. "I wish you well with your important work." ■



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Sandra and James Jellison, Rebecca and Tom Bruner, Soumya and Christina Das, Jonathan Oligmueller





Pleasanton Newcomers Group

Dublin residents recognized for outstanding community impact

Awards included Citizen of the Year, Organization of the Year

By NICOLE GONZALES

The city of Dublin recently announced the 2022 winners for its Volunteer Recognition Awards, including Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Organization of the Year.

Aiming to highlight people and groups who have gone above and beyond for their community, the city distributes the awards annually. The awards are meant to congratulate outstanding volunteer and social work done locally that increases residents' quality of life.

A ceremony held on March 1 named each recipient by category, as well as two special awards given by the Mayor Melissa Hernandez's office known as the Mayor's Award and Mayor's Legacy Award.

"The city of Dublin is grateful for the many volunteer organizations and individuals who give of their time in support of the Dublin community. Our many volunteers fill many needs and support a wide

variety of causes. They are often the unsung heroes, and the Volunteer Recognition Event is one way to honor them and thank them for their efforts," city communications officer Shari Jackman said.

"Each December, the city of Dublin issues a call for nominations for each of the three categories. For the sake of impartiality, we ask a panel of judges from outside of Dublin to review all of the nominations and score them based on a list of criteria," Jackman added.

Criteria for the awards may include time and effort, community relevance, originality and obstacles endured.

First-year Dublin Unified School District board member Kristin Speck received the Citizen of the Year award. In addition to serving on the school board, Speck is chairperson of the Parks and Community Commission and actively engages in volunteer outreach.

The Young Citizen award is given for volunteer service done by youth

ages 5 to 18. Yashas Shashidhara, who serves as the Mayor's Council environmental advocacy lead, was selected for this year's award. Shashidhara has been involved in a number of environmentally-aimed projects, including "Recycle my Battery", which has collected and reused over 1,000 pounds of electronic waste in the region.

Above and Beyond Leadership Education, recipient of Organization of the Year, is a student-run volunteer and leadership program with Dublin High School. The group regularly organizes various community-based projects and works with local officials to give back through volunteerism.

The Mayor's Award was presented to Katie Cheng and the Mayor's Legacy Award went to Erik Bertelson.

"The city of Dublin's Volunteer Recognition Awards began in 1986. The first Citizen of the Year was Tom McCormick, and the Dublin High Irish Guard Band Boosters



CITY OF DUBLIN

Flanked by the Dublin City Council is Yashas Shashidhara, the 2022 Young Citizen of the Year.

were named Organization of the Year," Jackman told the Weekly. "The Young Citizen of the Year

Award was then later introduced in 2006, and Mariko McCully was the first recipient of that award." ■

TEACHERS

Continued from Page 5

article in the contract regarding class sizes and caseloads for negotiations during the 2023-24 school year.

The Board of Trustees, superintendent, executive cabinet, California School Employees Association and district staff all even underwent interest-based bargaining training that was supposed to help facilitate mutually-beneficial settlements.

But then, according to Atkins and several APT members, when they asked the district management to return to the table after they found out about the surplus funds from the state, district representatives said no.

"In July 2022, districts received the largest adjustment in the history of the (Local Control Funding Formula)," Atkins said, citing the LCFF funding formula, which is

the mechanism through which most of the state's public schools are funded. "The state made an additional investment into LCFF of 6.7% to increase the base allocation. Then an additional 6.56% was added to the new base for COLA. This equals 13.2% of additional on-going money for PUSD."

Atkins said that because of this surplus of money she was hoping the district would look at the situation as a chance to provide teachers with the medical benefits that they deserve.

"PUSD is a destination district. The district has used this platitude over and over again to justify ignoring valid concerns and for refusing to make any appropriate compromise," Haley Baldwin, a Amador Valley High School social science teacher, told the Board of Trustees. "I am asking you today to please see past that dilution. PUSD is no longer a destination district. As of this year, PUSD now

offers the lowest total compensation package in the Tri-Valley."

And it isn't just the teachers that asked for the same request.

"PUSD has lost nurses to neighboring school districts, and also to higher paying jobs in health care. We have lost 50% of the nurses hired since August 2020. I repeat that again, we've lost 50% of our nurses since August 2020," said Susan Han, the lead district nurse, at the Feb. 23 meeting. "You might think that this was due to a nursing shortage, it was not. We lost them because we're no longer competitive in salary and benefits, especially health insurance."

But Gannon said that during the 2022-23 negotiations, the district had offered contingency language that would have "improved compensation greater than 5.5% in the event the district received additional dollars from the state, but APT and (California Teachers Association) declined that offer."

Atkins still said that the union was disappointed that the district management had originally said no to coming back to the table for the 2022-23 contract and that the district didn't share how they intended to spend that surplus money.

One of the main points that she and most of the teachers made during the Feb. 23 meeting was that the district should reopen the contract for one main reason other than just compensation — they said the district should reopen it because the teachers did the same thing for the district in 2008.

Paul Stewart, a physical education teacher at Hearst Elementary School, reminded everyone at the board meeting that during the Great Recession, the PUSD superintendent at the time, John Casey, had asked the union to help the district find ways to save money.

"What Dr. Casey did not know is that we had already been in

discussions on what to do, because we were not about to let important programs and staff be taken away from the students of this district," Stewart said.

"We wanted to be part of the solution," Stewart added. "So we opened the contract and offered up eight furlough days over the next 16 months to help cover the needs of the students. Let me repeat, we willingly opened up a closed contract when we had no obligation to do so. We did that for the students and I guarantee we would do it again if needed."

But Gannon attempted to reassure that the district is still eager to work with the union in the 2023-24 negotiations process.

"The current date offered by APT to negotiate is six weeks from now and we would encourage our APT and CTA partners to come to the table sooner to address these issues for our employees," Gannon said. ■



COURTESY APT

Over 300 members of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers gather outside of the Pleasanton Unified School District offices on Feb. 9 to demonstrate solidarity with the union's request to reopen contract negotiations.

Trumark Homes to develop new Arroyo Vista residential community in Livermore

Firm purchases nearly 30 acres with plan to build more than 400 units

By CIERRA BAILEY

San Ramon-based developer Trumark Homes closed a \$75 million deal earlier this year to buy 28.64 acres of land in east Livermore with a plan to build new housing.

Michael Lloyd and John Steinbuch of commercial real estate firm Colliers represented the

previous property owners, Pell Development Co, in the deal which closed on Jan. 19.

Lloyd formally announced the completion of the sale in a recent post on LinkedIn.

“It was a pleasure working with Tony Bosowski and Tim Saunders, this development will provide some much-needed housing!” Lloyd

wrote in the post. “They will be developing over 400 new residences: 348 townhomes and 86 detached houses.”

According to Livermore officials, the project site is located at Las Positas Road and Arroyo Vista and is currently vacant. The city approved land use entitlements for the project in 2017 with developer

SummerHill Homes; however, the firm — which is also based in San Ramon — was unable to come to an agreement with Pell and the project did not move forward.

For its project, Trumark has assumed the development agreement that SummerHill Homes had previously reached with the city.

A request for comment from

Trumark was unsuccessful, but Livermore officials told Livermore Vine in an email that the developer is currently processing a final map and improvement plans through the city of Livermore to build Phase I of the Arroyo Vista residential development.

“After final map/improvement plan approval, the next step will be for Trumark to submit building permits to the city; and construction can begin once building permits are approved,” officials said, adding that the city does not yet have a timeline for those steps as it is dependent on Trumark. ■

Alameda County formally ends COVID-19 emergency measures

Move comes same day as state announcement

By JEANITA LYMAN

The public health emergency declared in Alameda County at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 has come to an end nearly three years later, with the local decision coming in alignment with the end of California’s state of emergency and announced on the same day.

Alameda County Health Services Agency officials confirmed the end to the county-level state of emergency on Feb. 28, the same day that

Gavin Newsom ended the state’s emergency declaration.

“While COVID-19 continues to circulate in our communities, declarations of local health emergencies are intended to be temporary,” county health officials said in the Feb. 28 announcement. “We now know more about the virus that causes COVID-19 and how to protect ourselves and each other than we did in March 2020, and increased immunity in the local

population and widely available treatments have rendered the disease considerably less threatening to public health.”

State and local officials pointed to the relatively swift response to the pandemic in California — which had the lowest death rate from the COVID-19 virus among other large states — and in the Bay Area and Alameda County in particular.

In the latest data as of March 7, Alameda County reported 93.9% of

residents had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and that 86.6% were fully vaccinated. There were 113 confirmed COVID-related hospitalizations countywide as of March 3, down from a peak of 450 hospitalizations last January.

But despite the relatively optimistic outlook locally compared to other parts of the state and country, and the relief of seeing an end in sight to the nearly three years of life under COVID-19, the county didn’t

make it out unscathed.

Just under 2,200 people in Alameda County were confirmed to have died with COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic, according to county data, with 380,482 confirmed cumulative cases overall recorded by the county.

Despite the end of the state and county emergency declarations, county health officials emphasized that the virus has not disappeared and encouraged continuing to adhere to some basic preventative measures, such as keeping up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters, staying home if testing positive for the virus, testing, and making a plan for treatment if sick with the virus. ■

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DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Chefs at Locanda Amalfi in Pleasanton present their roasted rack of lamb in Barolo sauce during Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week.

A culinary showcase

Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week celebrates local food and drink

By DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Special discounts, food tours, wine pairings and a grand-prize giveaway — add in new culinary events and support for hunger relief agency Open Heart Kitchen. The third annual Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week recently

highlighted the food and drink scene in the region.

Held from Feb. 24 to March 5, the 10-day restaurant “week” attracted people from near and far for exclusive events and deals at their favorite restaurants and wineries. This year the number of participating businesses

grew from 45 last year to 58, including 11 wineries featuring many opportunities to sample new cuisines and beverages while saving money.

Like 2,000 others, I signed up for the new mobile pass option to get texts and emails about the participant discounts. I mapped out my route

to new and favorite restaurants and reserved online for special events. Along the way, I savored interesting food while discovering local, family-owned businesses and learning about upcoming restaurant openings.

Early on, I tried to reserve the new Taste of the Tri-Valley Food

Tour presented by the Livermore Wine Trolley with dining stops at three restaurants but no luck. Fortunately a second tour was added by Visit Tri-Valley, the marketing destination organization for Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Danville that sponsors the restaurant week.

During the tour’s stop at Coco Cabana tapas restaurant in Dublin, I asked Alexa Paulino of Antioch how she learned about Taste Tri-Valley. “I used to go to Napa and San Francisco for wine tasting or a night out, but now I keep my



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

A look at the prix fixe menu offering at LB Steak at City Center Bishop Ranch during Restaurant Week.



At Page Mill Winery, Brandon Wood, owner of The Cheese Parlor, speaks

eye on LivermoreVine.com and visit Livermore Valley wineries and often dine here.”

Taste Tri-Valley winery dinner

The Taste Tri-Valley kickoff was a five-chef collaborative dinner at Wente Vineyards. Fifth generation winemaker Aly Wente introduced the Wente wine pairings and encouraged everyone to lean in during the week to explore the renowned Livermore Valley wine region.

The vibe at the opening event was upbeat with strong community support. In her welcome remarks, Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown said, “Today we honor the diverse culinary options in the Tri-Valley and support Open Heart Kitchen which is an important way we serve those in need.”

Over \$5,000 was raised during the live auction to support Open Heart Kitchen, the Livermore-based organization that has fed over 7 million hot meals in the Tri-Valley since 1995.

At the dinner I met Jim Hutton from Mountain House who learned about the event from a Wente wine club newsletter. Hutton was interested in the dinner offer at LB Steak at City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon.

Though the city of San Ramon is no longer associated with Visit Tri-Valley, this year City Center Bishop Ranch — a dining, entertainment and shopping destination — partnered on Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant. LB Steak and six other restaurants signed up to participate.

One of the star chefs at the dinner was Roland Passot, co-founder of Vine Hospitality which owns the two LB Steak houses and multiple Left Bank brasseries. Foodies may



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

A sampling at Dumpling Time during Restaurant Week.

link Passot to La Folie, his Michelin-starred San Francisco restaurant which closed in 2020. Passot remembered me from writing about his foie gras presentation at La Folie.

“It is a great honor to be in Livermore tonight to support such

a good cause — and I get to cook with my San Ramon chefs,” said Passot, who lives in Marin County.

Passot stayed busy in the kitchen preparing the main course: Black Angus short rib Bourguignon, or what he called a “short rib lollipop” with the meat wrapped around a small bone. My husband, an avowed pescatarian, was pleased we weren’t served foie gras and devoured the delicious, tender meat.

Chef Sean Baker served deeply flavored beets prepared three ways for the first course.

Currently the chef at Gather restaurant in Berkeley, Baker will oversee the plant-based menu at Blossom & Root restaurant slated for a July opening in Danville. The menu at Blossom & Root will feature vegan “ice cream,” grain-and-legume burgers and more.

Culinary explorations

With your mobile pass as a guide, you could find 76 one-time offers from participating businesses.

The diverse deals included prix fixe (set price) lunches or dinners, percentage off a food item or your bill, and two-for-one options. Without coupons or QR codes, businesses required location



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Much Ado About Pizza owners Mark and Kira Zabrowski.

services turned on to confirm redemption. From redemption data, Visit Tri-Valley will identify which types of offers were the most popular. Each redemption equaled a chance to win the grand-prize giveaway — a hotel stay, e-bike rentals, gift cards and more — worth \$700.

Given a recent pizza craving, I used my mobile pass for 15% off on my order at Much Ado About Nothing in Pleasanton. I had heard that pizzaiolo (pizza maker) Kira Zabrowski had placed fourth in the world at the 2022 International Pizza Competition. Soon I asked myself, “Why did I wait so long to taste her house made, thin and crispy sourdough crust?”

Much Ado About Pizza has a Stratford-on-Avon ambiance. Seeking a photo, I asked Kira to stand by the wall-length mural of a river-side cafe with “William

Shakespeare” peering out of a window. The lifelike mural blurred what was fiction and whether the Ninja turtle pizza party game was real.

The reality of the pizza pleased me very much. I ordered the “As You Like It” custom-designed version. On my half, the pepperoni was New York style, thinly sliced and baked until crispy and curly which pleased this East Coast native. The husband’s half was covered in multicolored zucchini and mushrooms.

Reflecting the bard’s era, Kira and husband Mark Zabrowski often wear theatrical hats. The theme makes sense — Kira yearned to be an actress but ended up teaching Drama and English for 25 years.

I found several other culinary surprises during Taste Tri-Valley. The

See **RESTAURANT** on Page 14



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

s with customers while Page Mill vintner Dane Stark pours wine for the table.



RON ESSEX

Opening dinner chefs pose during the collaborative event at Wente Vineyards.



COURTESY LIVERMORE WINE TROLLEY

Weekly freelancer Deborah Grossman poses with Laura Jones during the Taste Tri-Valley Food Tour.

RESTAURANT

Continued from Page 13

third stop on the Livermore Wine Trolley food tour was at three-month-old Calafia in Livermore. Owner Angel Garcia jumped on the Taste Tri-Valley bandwagon by participating in the trolley tour and offering a \$10 off pass.

Though we ate well at Coco Cabana and Sansar in Livermore, Calafia served up a three-course meal with three tasty shrimp in chipotle cream sauce, chicken piccata, and Brazilian red velvet cake topped with fruit and two layers of whipped cream. Satiated and happy from the food tour, we took home leftovers.

On the food tour I heard recommendations for the Mexican pizza at Taqueria Azteca in Dublin. I journeyed to the taqueria and found another themed wall mural. With Aztec pyramids as the backdrop, I discovered I like Mexican pizza, a large flour tortilla loaded with carne, refried beans and cheese. I appreciated the pass with 50% off discount.

A few days later, I arrived at Dumpling Time in City Center Bishop Ranch promptly at 11 a.m. and lined up behind other customers. This Dumpling Time, one of five in the Bay Area, menus an abundance of fresh Asian treats and has a full bar. Many of the dim sum (steamed or fried dumplings) are made in house behind an exhibition window.

Wing Kong, the Dumpling Time operations manager, was pleased to partner on Taste Tri-Valley and noted that most mobile pass visitors were new guests redeeming 10% off their entire order.

"This is a great platform for us to show the community our new drinks and food, and we were attracted to their diverse portfolio of restaurants," Wong said.

I transformed into a soup dumpling (xiao long bao) lover after eating their colorful tom yum version — a round beet wrapper filled with spices and coconut milk instead of broth, evoking Thai tom yum soup.

Across the path resides the elegant and expansive LB Steak City Center where Passot serves up top quality beef. The Taste Tri-Valley specials were good value. Normally \$78, the \$65 three course dinner included an iceberg wedge with Pt. Reyes blue cheese dressing, 6-ounce filet and chocolate molten cake. I opted for the \$25 lunch with a large iceberg wedge and the Australian Westholme Wagyu brisket sandwich cradling a mound of crispy fries.

Another new event, the Cheese and Wine Pairing at Page Mill Winery, caught my eye. Here guests mingled with two aficionados of their respective trades in Livermore, certified cheesemonger Brandon Wood, owner of The

Cheese Parlor, and vintner Dane Stark of Page Mill Winery.

Wood's favorite and mine was the pairing with Purple Haze goat cheese nestled alongside crushed pecans. The herbal profile of the cheese and crunch of pecan matched well with Stark's smooth Page Mill GPS red blend of grenache, petite sirah and syrah.

Stark waxed philosophic on their pairings: "As wine artists and cheese artists, our work cannot be fully appreciated unless a marriage of the sensory elements of both are taken seriously." In other words, the cheese brought out the best in the wine and vice versa.

Page Mill hosts the Perfect Pairings group of their wine club to encourage creative food and wine pairings. Deborah Stevens of Livermore, one of the 26 guests at the Taste Tri-Valley event, had never visited Page Mill but saw the event on The Cheese Parlor's website.

"I never appreciated port-style

wines," Stevens said, "but I liked Stark's version (Page Mill Se Découvrir.)" Wood paired the dessert wine with St. Augur brie with local honeycomb, and we wanted more of it.

I wished Taste Tri-Valley continued for 14 days because the eight Danville participants eluded my schedule.

Fast-casual Hazy BBQ, which opened in December 2020, participated for the first time with a discount on brisket dry-rubbed and smoked Texas style over oak wood fires. I plan to belly up to the counter and order one of Danville native and owner Sean Harrigan's smothered queso brisket sandwiches. I also crave housemade pretzel bites with a Danville IPA at the Danville Brewing Company.

In Pleasanton I missed the offer of Dungeness crab specials from chef-partner Francis X. Hogan of Sabio on Main, a Michelin Guide-listed restaurant. How did I skip

the five-course Wine vs. Beer Pairing Dinner at BottleTaps with the crowd favorite dessert course described by owner Eric Wall as a sundae with house made Port Barrel Imperial Stout-infused ice cream topped with cherries soaked in McGrail Vineyards' reserve cabernet sauvignon?

The topper of the 10-day culinary adventure was the Sunday Supper at Locanda Amalfi in Pleasanton with wine pairings from Livermore's Las Positas Vineyards. The closing event proceeds supported Open Heart Kitchen. Chef Francesco Esposito and the four chefs from the other Bay Area Locanda locations cooked up a memorable five-course meal including Australian rack of lamb in a Barolo wine reduction with wild cherry sauce and tiramisu for dessert.

A fitting end to an exploration of Tri-Valley culinary specialties. Now we look forward to what more is cooking for 2023. ■



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Aly Wente welcomes guests during the opening night dinner.

Art that put the Bay Area on the map

New exhibition at Bankhead spotlights the Figurative movement

By JEREMY WALSH

Explore the creativity and expertise of perhaps the most significant art movement in Bay Area history, now on display in the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

"Bay Area Figurative Exhibit: Emerging from Abstraction", the new exhibition in the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery, "highlights the significance of this movement, considered the first significant North-American art movement to be based on the West Coast," and features works from accomplished painters of the genre, past and present, including late Livermore artist and educator Oneida Stowe, according to Livermore Valley Arts officials.

"The public is invited to share in this hometown exhibit at The Bankhead, with a unique

opportunity to look into this notable movement right from our part of the world, to see how art from our beautiful corner of the globe was influenced by our surroundings and in turn influenced back the greater art world as a whole," IVA officials said.

The Bay Area Figurative movement was born in the 1950s with local painters starting to move away from the popular Abstract Expressionism genre and focus their paintings on recognizable subject matter, according to IVA.

"Oftentimes, the subjects were figurative and usually painted with the beautiful strong light for which Northern California is known.

A second generation of Bay Area Figurative artists emerged following the 1950s, and the style continues with a new generation of artists today," IVA officials said.

The exhibition now open at the Bankhead includes works from late Figurative artists such as Stowe, Jerome Carlin and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, in addition to a number of contemporary artists working in the Figurative style.

Carlin gained prominence starting in the 1970s in the Berkley area with paintings that now "embody the Bay Area Figurative style through the use of color and loose representation," IVA officials noted.



"Bathers" by artist Jerome Carlin.



"Two Poets at Berlin Wall", a mixed media work from 1991 by late artist Lawrence Ferlinghetti, is among the works featured in the new exhibit in the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater.

Ferlinghetti was a poet, painter and social activist in the Bay Area and co-founder of City Lights. Stowe, who died in 2005, was a well-regarded artist based out of Livermore and taught art classes for 15 years at Las Positas College.

The exhibition, which opened last month and runs through April 23, will feature an open house art reception this Saturday (March 11) from 1-3:30 p.m. with select artists scheduled

to appear and speak more about their works that are part of the display.

The gallery is free and open for ticketed patrons of the Bankhead during performances and for the general public on Thursdays through Sundays from 1-5 p.m. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St. in downtown Livermore. For more information, visit livermorearts.org. ■

VCC shows 'Celebrating American Composers'

Tri-Valley choral group marking 60th season

By NICOLE GONZALES

Tri-Valley chorus group Valley Concert Chorale recently announced its spring season of shows marking their 60th anniversary.

In recognition of the six-decade milestone, the group is set to highlight prominent contemporary choral artists in "Celebrating American Composers". The group's performance style is known to incorporate and blend traditional and modern elements of choral music.

The first scheduled show takes place next Saturday (March 18) at 7:30 p.m. at Livermore's Asbury United Methodist Church. The second show will be held the next day, March 19, at 4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton. Both shows will be accompanied by a live string quartet, pianist and guitarist.

John Emory Bush, artistic director for Valley Concert Chorale since 1998, spoke about the group's 60th season and several pieces they are set to perform in a press release ahead of the spring shows.

"For our special 60th anniversary performances, I selected pieces by American composers who have written the most beautiful melodies. These composers are well-known

whose music is performed throughout the world," Bush said.

"While sometimes we might think of 'contemporary music' as discordant and hard to relate to, this is just the opposite. Each composer has carefully crafted rich and soothing tunes that will capture your heart and soul. This is a program for everyone to enjoy," Bush added.

The upcoming concerts will feature composers Ola Gjeilo, Jake Runestad, Eric Whitacre, Dan Forrest and more.

Bush explained that composer Whitacre is most famous for "virtual choruses" in which singers from across the globe will record themselves singing a composition. Whitacre then compiles the recordings and shares the virtual choir videos online. Valley Concert Chorale will be performing Whitacre's piece "Sing Gently" live.

In his statement Bush expressed appreciation for Gjeilo and his composition style.

"While born in Norway, Ola Gjeilo has resided in the United States for many years. He grew up in a musically eclectic home, listening to jazz, classical, folk and pop music. These styles and elements are reflected in his choral compositions," Bush said.



Valley Concert Chorale group has put on various musical performances in the past six decades. The newest concert series, "Celebrating American Composers", will showcase modern and well-known choral artists.

For the past six decades, the choir has continuously strived to engage audiences with various musical performances.

According to group members, the company started with the goal of "transforming the

power of music by sharing their passion and joy in live performance".

To find out more about Valley Concert Chorale and upcoming performances in the Tri-Valley, visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org. ■

‘Caught in the Villain’s Gaze’ in Sunol

Production raising funds to support arts program at school recovering from storm damage

By JEREMY WALSH

The Sunol Repertory Theatre stages a melodramatic play each year at the small hometown school to support arts among youth and the community at-large in Sunol.

The 40th season production holds that much more significance for the local theater troupe. Proceeds from the original play, “Caught in the Villain’s Gaze”, over the next three weeks will benefit the arts program at Sunol Glen School, which is still recovering from serious damage sustained from the early-winter rainstorms

and flooding.

“The Sunol Repertory Theatre Company was formed in 1982 to support the arts program at Sunol Glen School. It was envisioned as a way to give local people a chance to perform on stage,” director and playwright E. Tom Harland told the Weekly.

“We produce one show a year and our production this year is even more important in that the community has suffered with the New Year’s Day flood. Among other community losses the Art Building was destroyed at the school,” Harland

said. “The proceeds from this year’s production will go a long way to bringing the arts to our students.”

Harland’s original play — fully entitled, “Caught in the Villain’s Gaze: Or...Your Mother Was Right About Those Theater People!” — is set to debut this weekend in the theater at the school on Main Street in Sunol

The two-act play centers around a traveling group of thespians coming to small-town Sunol in 1910 with the intent of auditioning locals to perform in a production of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet”, but ... “things get out of hand with general mayhem that only true theater people can bring about,” according to the plot description.

“I have written the play to include all of what I think melodrama should have: full of villains, a hero, heroine and supporting characters galore. Also I thought bringing a



From left: Performing in Sunol Repertory Theatre’s production of “Caught in the Villain’s Gaze” are Patti Balch, Conover Smith, Annecy Hall, Chris Bobertz and Derek Johnson.

little Shakespeare to Sunol might not be a bad idea,” Harland said.

“This production of ‘Caught in the Villain’s Gaze’ has given me the opportunity to collaborate with a wonderful cast of characters. My unending thanks to all of them,” he added. “I am particularly pleased

that our cast includes four students from Sunol Glen School.”

The play opens tonight (March 10) and continues on Fridays and Saturdays through March 25, with each show at 8 p.m. For tickets and more information, visit sunol.net/srt. ■

Amador freshman wins international music competition

By NICOLE GONZALES

After qualifying for one of the most prestigious international music competitions in the country, a young Pleasanton native secured the top prize — winning her a unique scholarship opportunity and national exposure.

Celicia Thendean was recently announced as the Winter 2022 Philadelphia International Music Festival grand-prize winner. The competition provides thousands in scholarship funds to the Top 10 finalists ages 6 to 19 in the festival’s semiannual Online Concerto Competition. The 14-year-old from Pleasanton not only qualified to participate, but earned first place.

“A lot of things in my life revolve

around music. From practicing to lessons to listening to music to band to playing pieces in my head, music is constantly present in my life,” Thendean said in a Feb. 23 press release announcing her win.

“I feel like my biggest goal is to reach as many people as I can through my music. Whether it will be performing at venues or senior centers or posting online, I feel that there is a great value in sharing what I feel through music,” she continued.

Prior to taking home the grand prize, she has dedicated much of her life to classical music and has performed in venues across the Tri-Valley. Thendean is a multi-instrumentalist, meaning she is

able to play several instruments at a proficient level. She began with piano at age 4, cello at 8, oboe at 11 and clarinet at 14.

She has studied and performed with the Anna Poklewski Academy of Music in Fremont and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music pre-college program.

Closer to home, Thendean plays oboe in the marching band at Amador Valley High School, where she is a freshman.

For her submission, Thendean performed Concerto No. 3 in C Major, Op. 26 I. “Andante - Allegro” by Prokofiev.

“I chose the piece because of its energy and brilliance. It’s so fun to learn and to play and I hope others



Pleasanton teen Celicia Thendean won the recent Philadelphia International Music Festival Competition grand prize.

can also feel the excitement evident in the piece,” Thendean said.

Thendean won a full scholarship to the festival’s summer classical music training program. She will also be performing in

the organization’s yearly Winners’ Circle Concert alongside members of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

To view her performance submission online, visit <https://youtu.be/MWH3YWAWtME>. ■

Art groups to host basket weaver

Noted basket weaver Peeta Tinay will be the featured speaker at next week’s general meeting of the Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association.

Art has been an integral part of Tinay’s life since her upbringing in the Bay Area. Her father worked as a chemist but was a jeweler by night, and her mom, a dietician by trade, was a watercolorist. Tinay first learned the craft of basket weaving in the 1990s, improving her skills at caning, splint work and rush seating, as well as restoring wicker furniture at The Caning Shop in Berkeley, according to the Tri-Valley art groups.

“Today she continues restoring both antique and contemporary wicker. Starting in 2008, she veered hard into making large scale intricate baskets and hasn’t looked back since,” officials with the art groups said ahead of her appearance in Pleasanton.

“At this general meeting, Peeta will show samples of her exquisite creations and describe how each piece



Bay Area basket weaver Peeta Tinay.

is made. She will also bring a simple basket base and show how a basket is constructed from the beginning,” they added.

“Basket Weaving with Peeta Tinay” is scheduled as the featured presentation during the groups’ March general meeting, starting at 7:30 p.m. Monday (March 13) at the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Building at 4477 Black Ave.

For more information about the meeting, visit www.pal-art.com. To learn more about Tinay, visit tinay-studio.com. ■

—Jeremy Walsh

Barrel Tasting Weekend coming up

Local wine lovers are invited to sip samples right from the barrel at wineries across the Livermore Valley next weekend.

Livermore Valley Wine Community is set to host its annual Barrel Tasting Weekend from noon to 4:30 p.m. next Saturday and Sunday (March 18 and 19), according to a statement from the organization.

For the event, 15 local wineries will open their doors to attendees to sample wines that are still in development right out of the barrel. Featured wine varietals will include Cabernet Sauvignon, GSM, Grenache, Petite Sirah, Touriga Franca and Chardonnay.

Some wineries will also offer the opportunity to pre-purchase barrel wines at a discount, a practice known as buying “futures,” according to the wine community.

Barrel Tasting Weekend is open-house style, where each winery will have its own ticket for the experience at their location. A number of participating locations will host special activities including DJs and live bands.



A previous barrel tasting at McGrail Vineyards and Winery, which is also one of the participating wineries in this year’s event.

Artisan vendors and interactive experiences will also be featured, such as McGrail Vineyards’ aroma bar and the “Makers Movement” with local craft makers at Retzlaff Winery. Additionally, there will be bottle discounts and food for purchase from area eateries such as Marty’s Joint Food Truck, Big C BBQ and Mozzarella Food Truck.

Participating wineries include 3 Steves Winery, Caddis Winery, Charles R Vineyards, el Sol, Favalora Vineyards Winery, Garre Vineyard,

Leisure Street Winery, McGrail Vineyards and Winery, Murrietas Well, Omega Road, Page Mill Winery, Retzlaff Winery, Rodrigue Molyneux Winery, Rosa Fierro Cellars, Wente Family Estates, Wood Family Vineyards, Arroyo Cellars and Dante Robere.

Each winery’s experiences will range from \$15 to \$25 and include a minimum of two barrel samples and four total wines to taste. For more information, visit lwine.org. ■

—Livermore Vine staff

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Livermore VINE

A message from our Publisher, Gina Channell Wilcox

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Pleasanton police welcome two Foothill alumni to department

The Pleasanton Police Department recently announced its newest staff members — two Foothill High School alumni with experience in their respective fields.

Danielle Fowler will work as a police dispatcher, and Anu Kaur as a police officer. Both new hires have had careers in law enforcement prior to joining the staff in Pleasanton.

“We’re continuously looking for qualified candidates, and in this case, Dispatcher Fowler and Officer Kaur have the experience and familiarity with the city that makes them an excellent fit for our department,” Pleasanton police Sgt. Marty Billdt said.

Before joining the Pleasanton staff, Fowler first completed a sit-along with the dispatch center for San Leandro Police Department. She was then hired by SLPD as a dispatcher in 2006 and served over 15 years.

Kaur began her career as a police explorer with the Pleasanton Police Department. She continued



Danielle Fowler (left) and Anu Kaur (right) are sworn in for their respective roles with the Pleasanton Police Department.

through the program for five years, then served as a cadet with the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office, and then as a sheriff’s deputy.

“(Kaur and Fowler) have an understanding of Pleasanton that enhances the level of customer service and efficiency when helping community members,” Billdt continued. “We’re excited to have them back in their hometown.”

Chief David Swing also shared excitement about the new staff members in the press release announcing their arrivals.

“We gladly welcome Dispatcher Fowler and Officer Kaur as they

continue their careers in public safety and serve their hometown,” Swing said.

Billdt told the Weekly he encourages local youth intrigued by law enforcement to explore career options with the department and their various programs.

“For teens or young adults who are interested in the criminal justice system/law enforcement, we recommend looking at opportunities such as our summer Teen Academy or our Police Explorer program,” Billdt said.

—Nicole Gonzales

In other news

• A man robbed the Bank of the West branch in the Oak Hills Shopping Center in Pleasanton of an undisclosed amount of money while threatening that he had a gun last week, according to city police.

The Pleasanton Police Department was called to the bank

at 5452 Sunol Blvd. at 12:24 p.m. March 2 after a branch employee reported a robbery had just occurred, according to Billdt.

“An unknown suspect, wearing a sweatshirt, facemask and gloves, entered the bank and handed a teller a note stating he had a gun and demanded money. The teller gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of money,” Billdt told the Weekly.

The robber then exited the bank with the cash and fled in an unknown direction, according to the sergeant. “Since this is an active investigation, we’re unable to provide any more details at this time,” he added.

—Jeremy Walsh

• Three people were taken into custody Saturday night following a shoplifting spree in San Ramon and collaborative search by multiple police agencies.

Officers with the San Ramon Police Department responded to a report of grand theft by multiple suspects at Ulta Beauty on Crow Canyon Place at 5:10 p.m. Saturday, according to spokesperson Acting Capt. Tami Williams.

After the suspects fled with the stolen merchandise north on Interstate 680, three were located by officers with the Danville Police Department and taken into custody with assistance from Walnut Creek police during a traffic stop, according to Williams.

Stolen merchandise valued at more than \$3,400 was also recovered during the stop, and returned to Ulta.

SRPD is not releasing the names of the suspects, Williams said.

—Jeanita Lyman

• An Alameda County firefighter made his first court appearance Tuesday on federal charges of possession of child pornography, the Department of Justice announced.

Charles Johnathan Harris, 42, from Coulterville, was indicted on March 2. Harris is alleged to have possessed images of child pornography on his iPhone, including images of prepubescent children.

Federal authorities received a tip in the case from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which allegedly uncovered uploaded child pornography over the social media platform Kik, which the defendant allegedly uploaded “even while present at fire stations in Alameda County,” the prosecutors said.

Harris surrendered to federal authorities on Tuesday and was released on bond with the condition that his access to the internet be restricted.

His next court appearance will be on April 19. ■

—Bay City News Service

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Feb. 28

Warrant arrest

■ 7:22 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Theft

■ 8:22 a.m. on the 5700 block of Sonoma Drive

Vandalism

■ 9:25 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

■ 6 p.m. at Morganfield Road and Apperson Way

Fraud

■ 3:06 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

Domestic battery

■ 8:24 p.m. on Katie Lane

Assault/battery

■ 8:43 p.m. on the 1600 block of Whispering Oaks Way

Burglary

■ 10:42 p.m. on the 7300 block of Beaumont Court

Feb. 27

Vandalism

■ 7:29 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Fraud

■ 8:45 a.m. on the 100 block of Valletta Lane

Warrant arrest

■ 8:08 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

Feb. 26

Drug violation

■ 10:23 a.m. at Springdale Avenue and Stoneridge Mall Road

Shoplifting

■ 12:18 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Feb. 25

Vandalism

■ 5:03 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

■ 4:21 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

Theft

■ 10:10 a.m., 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

■ 4:58 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Feb. 24

Theft

■ 8:25 a.m., 11500 block of Dublin Canyon Road; auto theft

■ 12:30 p.m., 3800 block of Stoneridge Drive; shoplifting

Graffiti offense

■ 3:14 p.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue

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TIM TALK

BY TIM HUNT

Robson Homes presenting plan for Barone's site

Pleasanton's Planning Commission and City Council later this year will decide on the project proposed by Robson Homes to redevelop the site of the closed Barone's restaurant.

The site is between the Rose Hotel and the Barone family's personal home on St. John Street at the north end of downtown. Peters Avenue merges into St. John in front of the site.

Mark Robson, president of the homebuilding company, outlined plans for the site during a presentation to the Pleasanton Men's Club. He frankly described it as the first outreach to the broader public after they've been working with city staff and close neighbors for a few years. The site was zoned for residential in the last update of the downtown plan.

Robson grew up in Arizona, the son of a homebuilder. His dad, now in his 90s, still is in the office daily. Robson moved out here to attend Santa Clara University, married a local woman

and has operated his company here since 1989. The firm has built primarily in the Silicon Valley with single-family home projects, higher density multi-family developments and retail projects. It primarily has focused on infill or redevelopment projects.

His company takes pride in meshing the infill projects into the existing neighborhoods and builds homes with upscale fit and finish.

The design for the Barone's site includes two retail buildings with a patio that is patterned after Blacksmith Square in Livermore that Mike Madden developed. It will replace the restaurant building, and Robson said he hopes to attract a winery or multi-winery tasting room for that space. The retail space followed direction from the Planning Commission in 2021.



The plan includes 14 single-family homes and has used an unusual 2-1/2-story design to stay below 30 feet. That involves excavating for the garage below street level so only half of the door shows on the streetscape. The garage entrance slopes down and allows parking for two vehicles with enough space to move around. The units also are built tightly together almost like row houses.

All of the homes are four-bedroom and will hit the market, assuming approval, at more than \$2 million. Robson frankly said they are luxury homes. It will be an easy stroll to Main Street and its variety of restaurants and shops.

There is no similar housing demographic downtown once you get away from Second and Third streets to the east and a few larger homes on that side of Main Street.

Robson expects some opposition to arise from somewhere — it's an occupational hazard for homebuilders, particularly those doing infill and having to contend with neighbors. That said, they've been at it for more than 30 years, so it's far from their first rodeo. ■

Editor's note: Journalist Tim Hunt has written columns on the Tri-Valley community for more than 40 years. He grew up in the valley and lives in Pleasanton. His "Tim Talk" blog appears online at PleasantonWeekly.com.

LETTERS

Response to column

I am a resident of Pleasanton and attended the City Council meeting regarding Lions Wayside Park that Gina Channell Wilcox refers to in her column, "Growing list of illogical decisions".

It seems Ms. Wilcox feels that the current iteration of the Lions Wayside Park Plan, which involves moving the existing creek and removing all trees in or near the existing creek, should have been accepted by the City Council on the basis of it having been in the master plan for 30 years. I realize that many people have worked for a long time on this plan, but that does not make it good.

While Ms. Wilcox states that many people were "mystified and miffed" by the council's decision to sideline the park redevelopment, I was cheering.

The City Council put the brakes on an over-designed park concept which would cost an "estimated" \$14 million. The design firm informed council that they could not come up with an actual cost estimate until after the City approved the plan. No rational person, agrees to purchase something without first knowing the cost, and one can only assume that the actual cost will be higher.

Also, one of the top concerns of people surveyed regarding the park plan, was preservation of trees. For those in favor of filling in the existing creek, take a walk through the park and notice how many trees are located in or very near the creek bank. All of those trees will be removed, as well as others in the park proper, which do not fit within the vision of the planned park design.

Let me state that I am not one of the "FOMs (Friends of the Majority)" that Ms. Wilcox claims are wielding too much power in this decision. I am simply a resident of Pleasanton

whose children grew up playing in the creek during Concerts in the Park.

I am not interested in an over-designed, very expensive park plan which would change the feel of

Lions Wayside Park as well as the Pleasanton downtown. I would love to see the park left in its natural state, with just new gazebo to house the Concerts in the Parks bands.

—Susan Dickinson

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

Human Services Commission – Special Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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

- Review and Allocate Housing and Human Services Grant Funds for Fiscal Year 2023/24 and Recommend City Council Approval

Economic Vitality Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.

Remillard Conference Room, 3333 Busch Rd.

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

Housing Commission Meeting

Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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

- Review and Recommendation to City Council to Adopt the Draft Council Priorities for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and Receive an Overview of the Citywide Strategic Plan Project
- Review and Recommendation to City Council for Allocation of Federal HOME Funds and City Lower Income Housing Funds Related to the Housing and Human Services Grant (HHS) Program for Fiscal Year 2023/24

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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

What is happening with the Amador wrestling coach situation ...

Also: Game highlights from lacrosse and volleyball

As sometimes happens when you are in the weekly newspaper business, breaking news can get lost in the early week deadlines that allow us to get the paper printed in time for our readers to enjoy on Fridays.

Such is the case this time with what appears to be the Pleasanton Unified School District's decision to not extend the Amador Valley

High School wrestling coach Travis Chubb's contract for next season.

Details are still hard to come by as of Monday afternoon — the deadline for my column this week. But what our hardworking team has committed to is finding out all the information we can about the situation, then passing it on to you as soon as possible.

That likely will come first in the form of online coverage, as our print version is put away earlier this week as mentioned above. We were hearing there could be significant community turnout at the school board meeting, which was scheduled for yesterday after the paper went to press.

As for me, next week I promise to use my column to give you my views on the situation and the impact it may have in the future.

I have mentioned many times in the past about how coaching high school sports is a tenuous situation in these times. History has shown that oftentimes it takes all of one family to launch a claim against a coach, and from there on the coach is guilty until proven innocent, fighting from behind the 8-ball whether the claim is substantiated or not.

A complaining parent now has more control than at any other period in time. Whether this situation is the same, or whether the concerns are justified, remains to be seen.

What I know for sure is the large

contingent of wrestling parents and wrestlers that are upset at the purported decision and the number seemed to be growing by the hour on this Monday.

It's time for us to now do our diligence before reporting back to you. I thank you for your patience as we work to bring out the facts and pass them on to you.

Amador boys' lacrosse

The Amador Valley boys' lacrosse teams started with a split of games to open the season.

The Dons opened the season with an 8-6 win over College Park on the road.

Sebastian Diligent (3 goals, 3 assists) and Will Coultrip (3 goals, 1 assist) led the offense. Dillon Duke (2 ground balls, 3 forced turnovers) and Matteo Gervasoni (3 ground balls, 2 forced turnovers) led the defensive effort for the Dons.

Braden O'Donnell and Owen Heck combined to win 50% of their faceoffs, and Heck also collected five ground balls. Goalie Alex Smith faced 19 shots and only gave up the six goals.

Next the Dons hosted Saint Francis last Friday and lost 17-4. Brady Macisaac had two goals, and Diligent had two assists.

Foothill boys' lacrosse

The Falcons faced Mitty on March 1, and while turning in some strong play, they came up on the short end, falling 10-6.

Senior goalie Mikey Paulson had some amazing saves against a very strong offense.

On offense, the Falcons picked up two goals from AJ Becker and Darrin Lau, along with junior Wyatt Lam. Tyler Walsh added two assists.

Graham Zander was a defensive force both in recovering ground balls and running up the field to clear the ball. Freshmen Jagger Sakamoto and Avery Fink both saw productive playing time, and senior Jake Clevenger and junior Jack May turned in a big effort in the midfield.

Foothill boys' volleyball

The Falcons kept their unbeaten, early-season streak alive with another pair of wins, finishing the preseason with a 4-0 mark.

The first match saw Foothill take down American: 25-21, 25-18, 25-21. Highlights came from Tyler Keala (17 kills, 9 digs), Landen Meonske (34 assists, 7 digs) and Kayan Vohra (7 kills, 2 blocks).

Game two of the week saw a win over Mission San Jose by a 25-16, 25-5, 25-23 final.

This time the Falcons were led by Yun Bae (13 assists, 1 ace), Noah Mitzenmacher (12 service points, 4 aces) and Caden Stedman (7 kills, 2 blocks). ■

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

Public Notices

COAX CONSULTING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 595520

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

1.) COAX CONSULTING, located at 6806 CORTE NUEVO, PLEASANTON, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

STEVEN H. MOGAN
6806 CORTE NUEVO
PLEASANTON, CA 94566

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

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

(PLW Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

LEOPARDI WRITING CONFERENCE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 595017

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

1.) Leopardi Writing Conference, located at 443 37th Street Oakland, CA 94609, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Joint Venture

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

THOMAS COONEY
443 37th Street
Oakland, CA 94609
FREDERICK LAIN HART
6709 40th Ave
UP, MD 90782

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/15/2018

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 25 2023.

(PLW Feb 17, 24, Mar 3 and 10, 2023)

CABLETECHS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 594947

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

1.) CableTechs, located at 1437 Kolln St., Pleasanton, CA, 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

SCOTT CHESLEY
1437 Kolln St.,
Pleasanton, CA 94566

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 24 2023.

(PLW Mar 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2023)

PLEASANTON 100% HAND CAR WASH
PLEASANTON CAR WASH

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 595656

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

1.) PLEASANTON 100% HAND CAR WASH,
2.) PLEASANTON CAR WASH, located at 4005 PIMILCO DRIVE, PLEASANTON CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

PLEASANTON CAR WASH, INC
4005 PIMILCO DRIVE,
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
CALIFORNIA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2002

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 17 2023.

(PLW Feb 24, Mar 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 23CV027658

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Almas Kenges and Yanina Kenges filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ZAKARIAH KENGES to ZAKARIA KENGES

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 03/21/2023, 9:30 AM, Dept 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 02/10/2023

Charles A. Smiley
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Feb 17, 24, Mar 3 and 10, 2023)



KEN MANO

Special Olympics tourney in Pleasanton

Some 300 Special Olympics athletes from teams based out of the Tri-Valley, Mt. Diablo, Contra Costa, Oakland, Stanislaus, Union City, Hayward and Solano regions competed in Pleasanton last Saturday as part of the annual East Bay Basketball Tournament. It was the first tournament since early 2020, just before the pandemic started. Games were held on 11 courts at Amador Valley High, Pleasanton Middle and Harvest Park Middle schools. The Tri-Valley Rockets and Pleasanton RADD teams combined to form three T-RADD teams that would earn a gold, a bronze and ribbons for team play and several individual skills contest winners. More than 250 local volunteers helped out as scorekeepers, referees, registration officials, team escorts and on-call medical services.

Place a legal notice at PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

Entertainment

COURTYARD CONCERT STARRING

MICHELLE LAMBERT Michelle Lambert is a genre-defying, 21st-century talent with a lot on her mind who dominates every inch of the stage before wielding her violin in classic rock goddess mode. 5:30 p.m., March 10, outside the Bankhead Theater. Tickets \$10-\$20. Visit livermorearts.org.

LAURYN MARIE AT THE FIREHOUSE

Winner of the American Songwriter 2021 Song Contest, Lauryn Marie is a singer-songwriter from Pleasanton. Her thoughtful lyrics and evocative melodies create sincere and relatable songs. 8 p.m., March 10. Tickets \$20. Visit firehousearts.org.

NATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION

Showstopper, America's first, longest-running, and most prestigious dance competition, is hosting a National Dance Competition where studios in the area come to compete. March 10-12. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

SUNOL REPERTORY THEATRE

Sunol Repertory Theatre presents *Caught in the Villain's Gaze*, written and directed by Tom Harland. March 10-11; 17-18; 24-25. Tickets \$20. Visit sunol.net/srt.

A BROADWAY CELEBRATION

Deborah Del Mastro brings a collection of favorite Broadway melodies and memories to this special concert, along with some unexpected surprises. 8 p.m., March 11. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

ASBURY PLAYERS PERFORMANCE

Livermore theater group Asbury Players will be producing "The Savannah Sipping Society" a play that highlights a unique cast of characters and their struggles to trust, love and find hope through tough times. March 10-11, Asbury

United Methodist Church. Visit asburylive.org.

PUCCHINI'S TOSCA Livermore Valley Opera Presents Puccini's *Tosca*, a tour de force tale that barely spans 24 hours, replete with love, jealousy, betrayal, torture and murder. March 11-12. Tickets \$20-\$98. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE GEORGE BOWEN MASTER

GUITAR SUMMIT A benefit concert for the ALS Cure Project featuring master guitarists Arlen Roth, Bill Kirchen, Jim Soldi and Redd Volkaert in honor of the Tri-Valley's own George Bowen who handcrafts guitars in the Tri-Valley. 7:30 p.m., March 15. Tickets \$75-\$120. Visit livermorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS RON

ARTIS II A Soul artist and multi-instrumentalist from Hawaii, performing all original music and keeping it positive, Ron's songs and lyrics are laced with intention, deep conviction, story and a heart that has truly been there. 7:30 p.m., March 16. tickets \$20-\$45. Visit livermorearts.org.

XANADU AT LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

This fun and funky show is a roller-skating musical journey inspired by the 1980 movie of the same name and is guaranteed to have audiences tapping their toes and singing along. March 17-19; 24-26. Visit showtix4u.com/event-details/69147.

BRIAN COPELAND: GRANDMA AND ME

Through laughter and tears, Copeland compares and contrasts the trials of single parenting in the 1970s and the dawn of the 21st century as he tries to answer the question, "What does it truly mean to be a father?" 8 p.m., March 18. Tickets \$15-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

CALICELTIC AT THE FIREHOUSE

With their lively blend of original and traditional Irish songs, CaliCeltic guarantees the best Paddy's Day show you've ever seen. 8 p.m.,

March 18. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS

MUSICA PACIFICA This Bay Area treasure is one of America's premier baroque ensembles featured on NPR with eight CD s. 7:30 p.m., March 18. Tickets \$35-\$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE

Valley Concert Chorale Celebrates its 60th season with "Choral Currents: Celebrating American Composers". 7:30 p.m., March 18, Asbury United Methodist Church, Livermore; 4 p.m., March 19, Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS SOMOS

AMIGOS Friendship is at the heart of this joyful collaboration between Mexican songstress Sonia De Los Santos and the Americana folk duo, The Okee Dokee Brothers. Somos Amigos encourages young and old to explore, dance, sing and laugh together hand-in-hand. 3 p.m., March 19. Tickets \$20-\$40. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE FABULOUS THUNDERBIRDS

For over 30 years, The Fabulous Thunderbirds have been the quintessential American band with a distinctive and powerful sound, influenced by a diversity of musical styles. 8 p.m., March 19. Tickets \$20-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org.

RONSTADT REVUE AT THE

BANKHEAD Ronstadt Revue shows, performed in in both English and Spanish, span every musical genre of Ms. Ronstadt's 40+ year career. 7:30 p.m., March 22. Tickets \$20-\$44. Visit livermorearts.org.

HONK! JR. AT THE FIREHOUSE

This heartwarming celebration of being different is sure to delight audiences of all ages with its sparkling wit, unique charm and memorable score. Witty and hilarious, but also deeply moving. March 24-26; March 31-April 2.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Best friends

Bella and Buddy are the best of friends, a beloved and bighearted bonded duo, looking for their brand-new abode. They are medium-sized young adult cats. Learn more about Bella and Buddy, and other cats and dogs at valleyhumane.org. Email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process. #ShareTheCare to help pets today!

Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS PETER WHITE

Peter White has maintained a reputation as one of the most versatile and prolific acoustic guitarists in the contemporary jazz landscape with an unparalleled combination of lyricism and energy, combining elements of jazz, pop, and classical guitar. 8 p.m., March 25. Tickets \$20-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE FOUR SEASONS OF BUENOS

AIRES Experience the passionate Nuevo Tango of Piazzolla's *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*. Welcome the beginning of Springtime with the music of Telemann's *Concerto for Oboe d amore*, elevated by Soloist Robin May. 3 p.m., March 26. Tickets \$66.00. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEST OF SF COMEDY COMPETITION

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

BALLET ROOTS DANCE COMPANY

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

Exhibits

MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT

"Imagination Expressed" is the current exhibit at Museum on Main. This annual collaboration with the Pleasanton Art League shows off the latest works in a variety of media from Tri-Valley artists, through March 25. 603 Main St.

BAY AREA FIGURATIVE EXHIBIT

Bay Area Figurative Exhibit: Emerging from Abstraction is an exhibition that highlights the significance of the Bay Area Figurative Movement showcasing a number of contemporary artists working

in this unique style. Through April 23. Bankhead Theater.

CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR

ASSOCIATION EXHIBIT Among the finest shows of watercolor in the country, the California Watercolor Association's National Exhibition displays the best from 84 premier painters. Through Mar. 17. 4444 Railroad Ave.

FIREHOUSE LOBBY EXHIBITION

"After the Storm", a solo exhibition of Chilean-born, San Francisco artist Angelica Turner, features nine of Turner's works, including the lush botanical motifs for which she is known. Now through April 8. 4444 Railroad Ave.

Talks

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS

"Scrappy Applique" is the topic of the next Amador Valley Quilters meeting. Learn the technique in a fun, engaging environment where everyone will learn the skills to confidently turn any template into an original design. 1:30 p.m., March 11. Visit amadorvalleyquilters.org.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Cemeteries may provide the missing clue to extend family research another generation and there are many other records and clues beyond the tombstone. This lecture by Glenda Gardner Lloyd will give suggestions for finding the cemetery and items to bring with you. 6:30-8:30 p.m., March 13. Visit l-ags.org.

PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE GENERAL

MEETING At this Basket Weaving general meeting, Peeta Tinay will show samples of her exquisite creations and describe how each piece is made. She will bring a simple basket base and show how a basket is constructed from the beginning. 7:30 p.m., March 13. Pleasanton Cultural Arts Building. Visit pal-art.com.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS

Jim Azevedo presents "Indie Publishing: What's the Big Deal?" at the Tri-Valley Writers March meeting.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 22



NATHAN WEST

'Why CAN'T a Woman...?'

Amador Valley High School alumna Lianne Marie Dobbs is bringing her one-woman show from New York City to the Bay Area for one night only. "The show 'Why CAN'T a Woman...?' is filled with familiar Broadway songs and sassy standards that were originally written for men to sing, now reintroduced in a 'new silhouette' thanks to brief passages from beloved books by female authors — books which were borrowed repeatedly from the Pleasanton Library or purchased from local storefronts like The Bookstore on Hopyard," Dobbs told the Weekly. "I always have fun with my audience when I perform, and that's largely thanks to growing up in a community who listens and supports young progressive minds." The performance is set for next Thursday (March 16) at 8 p.m. at Feinstein's at the Nikko in San Francisco. For tickets, go to www.FeinsteinsSF.com/events.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 21

He will explain how the union of D2D and Smashwords created a self-publishing juggernaut overnight. 2 p.m., March 18. Las Positas College, Room 2470. RSVP by March 16 to treasurer@trivalleywriters.org. Visit trivalleywriters.org.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH ROBERT F. KENNEDY It's May 31, 1968, since mid-March, Robert Kennedy has toured the country seeking support in his pursuit of the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. Come hear his passionate views on the state of our country, its place in the world and our arc toward the future. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., March 28. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit museumonmain.org.

HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets virtually via Zoom on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of every month from 12p.m.-1p.m. Overcome fear of speaking in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Visit haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org.

Family

EASTER BUNNY AT STONERIDGE MALL The Easter Bunny is hopping into town at Stoneridge Shopping Center and reservations are encouraged for a Bunny Photo

Experience. March 10-April 8. Visit bunnyphoto.splashthat.com.

THE BISHOP RANCH HOLI CELEBRATION Holi marks the arrival of spring and is a vibrant, and colorful Indian celebration. Enjoy the throwing of colors, traditional dance performances, music, and delicious food surrounded by family and friends. 2-4 p.m., March 26.

Farmers' Markets

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

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

Support

AXIS COMMUNITY HEALTH TABLE Healthcare options can be overwhelming and Axis Community Health can help with an enrollment specialist from Axis in the Dublin Library lobby to answer questions, no appointments necessary. 1-4 p.m., March 14.

NAMI TRI-VALLEY PARENT RESOURCE AND SUPPORT GROUP NAMI Tri-Valley offers a once monthly Zoom Parent Resource and Support Group that is free with no registration required. This is a peer parent facilitated informal open-a agenda format group for parents, and caretakers. 7-8:30 p.m., March 21. Visit nami-trivalley.org.

GRIEF MINISTRY The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss and those grieving need time and space to honor their grief and figure out how to keep on living when a loved one is gone. Join at St. Elizabeth Seton, 7 p.m., Mar. 23. All are welcome regardless of religious affiliation with no advance registration required. 4001 Stoneridge Dr.

FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM The City of Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department provides a Fee Assistance Program for residents who would like to participate in recreation programs but may not have the financial means. For more information visit cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cs/fees.asp.

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

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

LIVERMORE WARMING CENTER When overnight temperatures are forecasted at or below 45 degrees and/or a 20% chance or higher of rain. Open to anyone on a first come, first-serve basis. For more contact info@onenationdreammakers.org. Veterans Memorial Building, 522 S. L St.

Military

PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES PACKOUT March Easter/Spring Packout. Prepack 3:30-6:00 p.m., March 17; Care Package event, 8:45 a.m., March 18. Veterans Memorial Building. Visit pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org.

VA MEDICAL OUTREACH The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's mobile medical outreach van will be at the Livermore Civic Center Library parking lot where Medical providers will be on-site to provide examinations, consultations, and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., March 23. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

Outdoor Recreation

MARCH CAMPFIRE SYCAMORE GROVE PARK Gather around a fire and share stories while eating s'mores. Bring a blanket and warm clothes. All ages welcome. 6-7 p.m., March 11. Call 925-373-5700.

OPEN SPACE VOLUNTEER DAYS Every third Saturday of the month join an LARPD ranger for a

volunteer work day in the park. Volunteers help maintain Sycamore Grove Park as a beautiful and healthy place for both visitors and wildlife. 9 a.m.-12 p.m., March 18. Call 925-373-5700.

PLEASANTON RIDGE SUNOL PEAK HIKE Hike from Tyler Ranch staging area to the top of Sunol Peak. Level: Moderate. This hike involves a 2000' climb to the peak and then a return hike all downhill. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., March 18. Visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/events.

2023 SHAMROCK 5K FUN RUN & WALK Join the fun and festivities of the St. Patrick's Day Celebration by participating in the Shamrock 5k Fun Run and Walk for runners and walkers of all abilities. 8:30 a.m., March 19. Visit dublin.ca.gov/867/Shamrock-5K-Fun-Run-Walk.

Festivals

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREW CRAWL Downtown Pleasanton will turn green for the 10th annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl where downtown merchants and breweries come together for a fun and memorable night of beer tasting. 5-8 p.m., March 18. Tickets \$50. Visit pleasantondowntown.net.

FOAM GLOW AT THE FAIRGROUNDS Foam Glow is the world's largest glowing foam run and dance party. Light up the night in this 5K course as you run, walk, and dance under high-intensity black lights and a larger-than-life after-party. 7:15-10 p.m., March 18. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

INTERNATIONAL WEDDING FESTIVAL AT THE FAIRGROUNDS This one-stop shop features an array of top professionals' fun ideas, products and services all in one place. 11 a.m.- 3 p.m., March 19. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

LIVERMORE VALLEY HOSTS BARREL TASTING WEEKEND Livermore Valley Wine Community is set to host its annual Barrel Tasting Weekend where 15 local wineries open their doors to attendees to sample wines that are still in development right out of the barrel. 4:30 p.m., March 18-19. \$15-\$25. Visit wwine.org.

GOODGUYS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS America's favorite car show returns to the Fairgrounds for its 40th anniversary season of cool cars, cool people and good times featuring over 3,000 of the west coast's best American made and powered show cars and trucks of all years on display. March 25-26. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Volunteers

VOLUNTEER FOR ADULT LITERACY AND ESL SERVICES Volunteer with Pleasanton Reads, serving adult learners of English in the Tri-Valley. Volunteer training and orientation, 5-8 p.m., March 15. Pleasanton Senior Center. Contact 925-931-3405.

VOLUNTEER WITH OPEN HEART KITCHEN Open Heart Kitchen exists to meet the immediate need of hunger within the Tri-Valley community, while also seeking

ways to eliminate systematic inequalities leading to hunger. To learn more, visit openheartkitchen.org/volunteer.

Seniors

AARP MATURE DRIVER'S COURSE This course through the Pleasanton Senior Center is 12-4 p.m., March 15. \$20 AARP members/\$25 non-members. Call 925-931-5365.

LUNCHES AT THE PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER For (60+) served in the Main Hall, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for more information.

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

PLEASANTON PEDALERS AT THE SENIOR CENTER Pleasanton Pedalers Cycling meets at the Senior Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m.-Noon. For more information call 925-931-5365.

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

Scholarships

LAS POSITAS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM The program provides students with full tuition for up to two years, an annual stipend of up to \$1000 for books and school supplies, complimentary parking permits each term and personal use of a new laptop computer. Program application deadline is March 24. Visit laspositascollege.edu.

ROTARY CLUB OF PLEASANTON SCHOLARSHIPS The Rotary Club of Pleasanton invites high school seniors attending any high school in Pleasanton to apply for its \$40,000 worth of scholarships for students in financial need in 2023. Guidelines and applications are available online at pleasantonrotary.org. Apply by March 31.

Government

STATE OF THE CITY PLEASANTON 2023 The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce presents, State of the City Pleasanton 2023, featuring Mayor Karla Brown. 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., March 29, Palm Event Center. Tickets \$75. Register by March 10. Visit Visitpleasanton.org.

PLEASANTON HOUSING COMMISSION MEETING The Pleasanton Housing Commission meets via teleconference 7 p.m., March 16. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

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



Cruisin' Down Under: Pleasanton residents Mike and Maria Bartlett finally got to go on their cruise to Australia and New Zealand. Originally booked in 2019 and canceled several times due to COVID ... the third time booked was a charm. Here they are onboard the Celebrity Eclipse at last, leaving Sydney Harbor with the Sydney Opera House in the backdrop and bound for Milford Sound, New Zealand to kick off their 13-day cruise.

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

Real estate association honors best of the best

Awards include Realtor of the Year, Good Neighbor of the Year

By JEREMY WALSH

The Bay East Association of Realtors recently recognized stand-out members for accomplishments in the industry in the Tri-Valley and greater East Bay during 2022.

The organization's annual awards honored local real estate professionals who "each demonstrated ethical standards and professionalism, active community involvement and a high level of service to the real estate profession," according to a recent Bay East press release.

The awards included Realtor of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Good Neighbor of the Year and the John Deadrich Distinguished Service Award.

Here were the 2022 award recipients who were lauded at the Bay East gala event earlier this winter, along with descriptions provided by the association.

Realtor of the Year

Bill Espinola, with Park View Realty in Hayward, received the Realtor of the Year award for demonstrating the highest level of integrity and commitment to Bay East



Bill Espinola



Christian Carr



Nancie Allen



Sandi Gomes



Diane Johansen

and the real estate profession.

Espinola has earned several professional designations from the National Association of Realtors and has served on the Bay East Board of Directors and as chair of the Bay East Local Government Relations and Political Activities committees. He also serves on the California Association of Realtors Board of Directors. Espinola is a tireless advocate for home ownership and housing providers.

Rookie of the Year

Glen Riggs, with Elation Real Estate in Pleasanton, received the Rookie of the Year award. Riggs helps organize and promote the

Valley Real Estate Network meetings and events, and volunteers with the East Bay Children's Law Office, If Only You Knew Foster Care and Valley Humane Society.

Platinum Affiliate of the Year

Christian Carr, with Loan Depot, received the Platinum Affiliate of the Year award. Carr is an active member of the Central County Marketing Group and the Women's Council of Realtors Alameda County Network.

Outstanding Leader

Nancie Allen, with Compass in Fremont, received the Outstanding Leader award, which is given to a

past president of the association who continues to pursue the vision of excellence in the name of Bay East.

Allen promotes the Bay East, California Association of Realtors, and National Association of Realtors Professional Standards programs in addition to providing valuable meeting management training and support to Bay East leaders and committee members.

John Deadrich Distinguished Service Award

Sandi Gomes, with Pride Properties in Livermore, received the John A. Deadrich Distinguished Service Award for her contribution

to Bay East during 2022. Named in honor of Bay East's first president, this award is traditionally given to a single Bay East member who exemplifies the self-sacrifice, vision, and accomplishments of the greatest leaders who have shaped the real estate profession.

Gomes serves on the Bay East Board of Directors, Bay East Local Government and Political Activities and on the California Association of Realtors Board of Directors. She was honored for her consistent advocacy for home ownership at the local level and leadership contributions to Bay East and organized real estate.

Good Neighbor of the Year

Diane Johansen, with RE/MAX Accord in Castro Valley, received the Good Neighbor of the Year award. This award recognizes a Bay East member making a positive contribution to their communities. Johansen is an active volunteer with Shepherd's Gate in Livermore helping victims of domestic violence and substance abuse recover. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Jan. 30-Feb. 3)

Total sales reported: 5
Lowest sale reported: \$375,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,530,000
Average sales reported: \$1,193,400

Livermore (Jan. 30-Feb. 3)

Total sales reported: 9
Lowest sale reported: \$759,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,075,500
Average sales reported: \$944,277

Dublin (Jan. 30-Feb. 3)

Total sales reported: 3
Lowest sale reported: \$1,095,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,675,000
Average sales reported: \$1,291,000

San Ramon (Jan. 30-Feb. 3)

Total sales reported: 3
Lowest sale reported: \$680,000
Highest sale reported: \$1,750,000
Average sales reported: \$1,590,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Jan. 30 to Feb. 3 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon.

Pleasanton

6167 Corte Altamira B. Tull to K. & S. Balan for \$1,495,000
7694 Hillsdale Court D. & D. Drake to J. & A. Shanker for \$1,492,000
553 Neal Street S. & G. Desin to T. & S. Biakanja for \$1,500,000
3461 Norton Way #8 A. Newman to K. & J. Virgen for \$375,000
3785 Rocky Mountain Court Urbanik Living Trust to S. Kumar for \$1,105,000

Livermore

1557 3rd Street Corbett Family Trust to J. Tchorzewski for \$830,000
1514 Corte Reina Common Jagher Family Trust to N. & A. Ali for \$920,000
764 Del Mar Avenue S. & T. Bond to M. & A. Krishnan for \$1,075,000
910 Del Norte Drive E. Kelly to Jubilee Christian Ctr Of San Jose for \$975,000

583 Emerald Street J. & J. Stone to P. & V. Duriseti for \$1,075,500
435 Hagemann Drive Redwood Holdings LLC to A. Soto for \$999,000
173 Heligan Lane #8 Logan Trust to S. & K. Prasad for \$759,000
479 Hillcrest Avenue S. & J. Tanner to C. & M. Christensen for \$915,000
5184 Peony Drive S. & R. Michaels to R. & K. Motaparti for \$950,000

Dublin

6735 Pearl Place K. & P. Armas to J. & L. Cherng for \$1,675,000
4513 Sandford Court P. Sheth to N. & D. Moghe for \$1,103,000
4018 Windsor Way C. Li to Global Greenlife Inc for \$1,095,000

San Ramon

400 Arlewood Court S. Balasubramanian to N. & G. Bansal for \$1,750,000
2575 Dos Rios Drive Opendoor Property Trust I to R. & N. Ravi for \$1,590,000
406 South Overlook Drive #A Weiss Trust to M. & D. Lee for \$680,000

Source: California REsource

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Pleasanton Real Estate Market Recap February 2023 – Improving Market

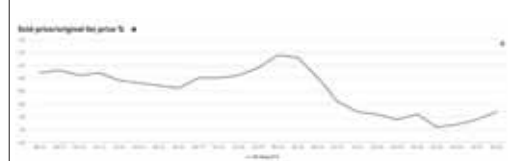
The Pleasanton real estate market showed improvement in February, with virtually all metrics showing positive gains for the month. Thanks to a drop in interest rates in January and the feeling among some buyers that the market is at or near the bottom after the strong decline in values, activity surged in February. Closed sales, median price per sq ft, median sold price, and pending sales were all up in February. And median days on market dropped almost in half to 8 days on average. And the sales price to list price ratio for closed sales in February surged to 97% on average, well above the 91% ratio we saw in November of last year.

While buyers in general remained cautious in terms of what they were

>> To read the rest of this article go to www.680homes.com/blog.

Pleasanton Market Report Data for February 2023 Single Family Detached Homes

	FEB 2023	CHANGE FROM JAN 2023	CHANGE FROM FEB 2022
Homes sold	26	+13%	+8%
Homes for sale	28	+20%	+3%
Median days on market	8	-47%	+10%
Median price per square foot	\$798	+10%	+16%
Months of inventory	1.4	-70%	+6%
Median sold price	\$1,400,000	+17%	+14%
Homes under contract	26	+10%	+8%



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Week Of The Woman Starts Today!

"The Most Effective Way To Do It, Is To Do It."


-Amelia Earhart

Amelia Earhart was one of the first female aviators, daring to challenge traditional roles between men and women. This quote speaks of how powerful our strength and bravery can be when putting our minds to something. What brave and daring **REAL ESTATE** dream do you want to pursue today?

JUST LISTED
Listed at \$4,795,000



1904 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill
Brenda Meckenstock • 925.353.6484



COMING SOON
Listed at \$1,749,000



5847 San Juan Way, Pleasanton
Liz Venema • 925.413.6544



COMING SOON
Listed at \$2,395,000



10767 Inspiration Way, Dublin
Celeste Storrs • 925.519.3019



PENDING



5920 Old School Road, Danville
Alexis Venema • 925.963.5446



PENDING




5804 San Carlos Way, Pleasanton
Liz Venema • 925.413.6544




PENDING




130 Prato Way, Livermore
Sabrina Tirado • 925.578.4303




PENDING




433 Sycamore Hill Drive, Danville
Michelle Kroger • 925.785.3134



SOLD
Sold for \$1,250,000



6433 Owl Way, Livermore
Alexis Venema • 925.963.5446



SOLD
Sold for \$1,328,000



309 Lone Oak Drive, Pleasanton
Lisa Desmond • 925.352.5065

