

# Pleasanton Weekly

**'Rebuilding  
Community  
Through Art'**

Page 14

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## 2023 STATE OF THE CITY

PLEASANTON MAYOR KARLA BROWN  
HIGHLIGHTS CITY ACHIEVEMENTS  
OVER THE PAST YEAR

PAGE 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Vigil and rally over deaths at Santa Rita Jail
- 5 | **NEWS** 'Race, Power and Poverty' in the Tri-Valley
- 18 | **SPORTS** Amador baseball's strong start continues

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### 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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# WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

## Fair concerts set

As the dreary weather just continues to linger, I'm probably like many of you — longing for the Bay Area sunshine to return. Maybe that's one reason the Alameda County Fair's slow-release of its 2023 Big O Tires Concert Series lineup over the past month really caught my eye.

Nothing says summer in the Tri-Valley like the county fair, and the nightly concerts are such a big part of the experience.

Fair organizers have outdone themselves yet again, putting together a tremendous series with entertainers that run the genre gamut.

The headliners are E-40, Ashanti, Joe Nichols, LeAnn Rimes and Quiet Riot, but they're really just the tip of the iceberg.

Seeing Bay Area rap legend E-40 on the bill is a wow. As someone born in Vallejo and raised in Benicia, E-40's music was a mainstay on my iPod in high school and college — tracks I still enjoy to this day, albeit via streaming.

"Tell Me When to Go" dropped my senior year. An all-timer. I'm partial to "Automatic", "Sprinkle Me" and a little "Carlos Rossi" too.

E-40 will hit the Lucky Amphitheater stage on June 29, midway through the Alameda County Fair's summer 2023 run. Unfortunately, reserved seats are already sold out for his concert, but bleacher or lawn spots will be available on the day of.

Grammy Award-winning R&B star Ashanti promises to be another popular draw at the fair, when she arrives on June 22.

LeAnn Rimes, another Grammy winner who exploded onto the scene when I was growing up with her string of country crossover hits, is making her return to the Pleasanton fair on July 6. Local country fans can also enjoy Joe Nichols on June 28 and LANCO on July 3.

Actor and singer Jesse McCartney, who performs at the fair on June 21, came into his own musically during my high school years as well. His "Beautiful Soul" was everywhere.

Classic rock and 1990s alternative also blare from my headphones often these days, so Quiet Riot (June 23) and Gin Blossoms (June 30) sustain those cravings, respectively.

Other throwback groups coming to the fair are Mi Banda El Mexicano on June 25 and Con Funk Shun, who open the concert series on June 16.

The rest of the slate is filled with

cover acts: Yachtley Crew ("The Titans of Soft Rock" on June 17), Bee Gees Gold (June 18), Queen Nation (June 24), George Michael Reborn (July 1), Purple Reign (Prince tribute, July 2), Mirage: Visions of Fleetwood Mac (July 7), Super Diamond: The Neil Diamond Tribute (July 8) and Karla Perez as Selena (July 9, closing night).

It's a fun list highlighting many performers and songs I know and love. I used to sing all the Bee Gees' hits to my son Francis when he was an infant last year; of course my rendition of "Fanny" became "Franny". I nearly wore out my Prince greatest hits CD in high school. I once wrote a short story for a college writing course on adaptations inspired by my favorite Fleetwood Mac song.

But there's a tinge of melancholy to these cover acts too. It's barely been four months since the world lost Christine McVie from Fleetwood Mac. Selena, murdered at such a young age. Freddie Mercury, George Michael, Prince, Maurice Gibb and Robin Gibb — musical geniuses, all, who died when they no doubt had so much more of their passion to share with the world.

Thankfully, their music continues to live on. I know they rotate among my Amazon Music account regularly.

Fair reps are still working to fill the July 5 concert slot, and there is no show when the fair is open on the Fourth of July.

This summer, the fair is offering "Floor" and "Club" reserved seats (floor seating with chairs that have backs) for \$25 each, or just \$15 for cover bands, sold separately. Bleacher seats, which are on benches without backs, in open seating style are available on the concert day with fair admission or a season pass.

Fair patrons can also watch the concerts just outside the amphitheater on the concert lawn via the Jumbotron screen. As the concert wind down each night, there will be a drone light show at 9:30 p.m. over the grandstand.

If you want to see which shows still have reserved seats available, or you just want to know anything else about the concert series or the 2023 fair overall, visit [annual.alameda-county-fair.com](http://annual.alameda-county-fair.com) today. ■

*Editor's note: Jeremy Walsh is the editorial director for the Embarcadero Media East Bay Division. His "What a Week" column is a recurring feature in the Pleasanton Weekly.*

## About the Cover

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown poses at Alviso Adobe Community Park a couple of weeks before she presented her 2023 State of the City address where she highlighted Pleasanton's achievements over the last year. Photo by Christian Trujano. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXIV, Number 11

## GINA'S LISTINGS - COMING NEXT WEEK!



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

California Department of Transportation,  
District 4: Interstate 680/Sunol Boulevard  
Interchange Improvements Project



**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY** of a Draft Initial Study with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and virtual open house public meeting.

**WHAT'S BEING PLANNED**  
The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 4, Bay Area, will host a virtual open house public meeting to share information on the proposed Interstate 680/Sunol Boulevard Interchange Improvements Project (project) and answer questions regarding information presented in the IS/MND.

The project would take place along Interstate 680 (I-680), from Post Mile (PM) R14.8 to PM R15.5, and along Sunol Boulevard from Arlington Drive to Castlewood Drive in the City of Pleasanton and unincorporated Alameda County, California. The project would modify intersection traffic controls and lane striping, increase ramp storage, and improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the interchange area.

The purpose of the project is to reduce congestion on Sunol Boulevard, accommodate future traffic volume growth, and improve pedestrian and bicycle access through the interchange. It is needed to address existing congestion on Sunol Boulevard, projected increases in travel demand from future job and housing growth, and gaps in the sidewalk and bicycle lane network through the interchange area.

Caltrans is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agency for the project, and the City of Pleasanton is the project sponsor.

### WHAT'S AVAILABLE

The Draft IS/MND is available to read or download on the Caltrans Environmental Document Website here: [https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4\\_popular-links/d4\\_environmental-docs](https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4_popular-links/d4_environmental-docs).

For printed copies or assistance, email [Daniel.Chan@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Daniel.Chan@dot.ca.gov).

TTY users may request copies of the environmental document in alternate formats through the California Relay Service 1 (800) 735-2929 (TTY to Voice), 1 (800) 735-2922 (Voice to TTY), 1 (800) 855-3000 (Spanish TTY to Voice and Voice to TTY), 1-800-854-7784 (Spanish and English Speech-to-Speech) or 711

### WHERE YOU COME IN

- **Learn More** by attending the virtual open house public meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM to discuss the project and ask questions. Information about the public meeting, including how to log on to the meeting, will be provided at [https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4\\_popular-links/d4\\_environmental-docs](https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4_popular-links/d4_environmental-docs).
- **Submit a comment** in writing by **May 8, 2023**, to Caltrans District 4, Office of Environmental Analysis, ATTN: Daniel Chan, P.O. Box 23660, MS-8B, Oakland, CA 94623-0660, or by email to [Daniel.Chan@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Daniel.Chan@dot.ca.gov).



Project Location Map

Para la traducción de idiomas, use la siguiente información de contacto.

如需语言翻译 · 请使用以下信息联系

Janis Mara at [Janis.Mara@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Janis.Mara@dot.ca.gov) or (510) 715-9291

# Streetwise

ASKED IN DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON

## What are your plans for Easter this year?



**Ayele Gizaw**  
Consultant

I have no major plans other than to call my mother, and to work on some creative projects like photography and some interior painting work, like painting some pillars and columns in my home a very beautiful shade of green.



**Phil Pickett**  
Bartender

Well, my birthday is on April 10, so I'm planning to celebrate Easter and my birthday with my family in Dublin. We're really looking forward to spending the day together.



**Rosie Martinez Clark**  
Elementary school teacher

We'll be on our way home from Florida after having attended my oldest daughter's college lacrosse game there. Once we're back in town, we plan to enjoy a very low-key, local time with our friends at home.



**Angelo Rebello**  
Waiter

I'm planning to go to my church, St. Augustine, for Easter Mass, in the morning. I'll then celebrate the remainder of the day with my colleagues/friends. It will be a good day!



**Marcus Williams**  
ER doctor

I'll be working, but I'll also be spending time with my wife and dog, and with any luck we'll be spending much of that time outdoors because the weather will be beautiful.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

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## DIGEST

### Downtown egg hunt

The Pleasanton Downtown Association is holding its Bunny Hop Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday (April 8) from 10 a.m. to noon.

Open to kids 10 years old and younger, the scavenger hunt event will start at the Museum on Main at 603 Main St. and continue at various participating businesses and locations in downtown Pleasanton.

"The Bunny Hop is back and we are so egg-cited," PDA officials said. "They will receive a goody bag and their first clue to lead them to treats from participating businesses. It's going to be a hopping good time!"

The free event is limited in supplies, so families are encouraged to line up early. Reservations are available via the PDA website at [pleasantondowntown.net](http://pleasantondowntown.net).

### Property tax due

The deadline for residents to submit the second installment of their 2022-23 property tax bill without penalty is 5 p.m. Monday (April 10).

After that day, the payment will be considered late and subject to a 10% delinquency penalty and a \$10 processing cost, according to the Alameda County Tax Collector's Office.

Payments can be made by mail, phone or online. There is a 2.5% service fee for payments made with credit cards, whereas written check, eCheck and other payment methods are free of charge.

To learn more, visit [www.acgov.org/propertytax](http://www.acgov.org/propertytax) or call 510-272-6800.

### Student art contest

Tri-Valley Haven, a Livermore-based nonprofit that provides resources and support for survivors of domestic violence and assault, is hosting a student art contest throughout the month of April to promote positivity, healthy relationships and safe families.

Students in grades six through 12 will be able to submit original, creative works of art pertaining to the contest theme: safe homes and safe families. The artists are encouraged to include messages of healthy relationships, consent and empowerment in their artwork.

First-, second- and third-place finishers will receive \$100, \$50 and \$25 gift cards, respectively.

The top winner's design will be printed on commemorative shirts for Tri-Valley Haven's annual Pace for Peace 5K/10K race later this year. The race, which takes place in October, raises funds for the nonprofit during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Submissions are open from now through April 27. Visit [tri-valleyhaven.org](http://tri-valleyhaven.org) to learn more. ■

## Vigil and rally at Santa Rita Jail

Organizers call for change as death toll at county jail in Dublin continues to grow

By JEANITA LYMAN

Community organizers, faith groups, and friends and family of the steady stream of in-custody deaths at the county jail in Dublin gathered over the weekend to memorialize the casualties of what they say are notoriously harsh conditions at the facility while calling for changes including independent oversight of the facility and non-carceral solutions to mental health and substance abuse challenges.

A crowd of approximately 75 came together outside Alameda County's Santa Rita Jail starting at 1 p.m. on Saturday with speakers,

a march, and continued discussion carrying on past 3 p.m., including words from currently and formerly incarcerated people, the surviving family of casualties at the jail, and community organizers seeking to put an end to harsh treatment and deaths within its walls.

The "Care not Death" vigil and noise demonstration was organized by Care First Community Coalition in conjunction with other local civil rights and activist organizations. The event came on the heels of four reported deaths so far at the jail this year, bringing the number since 2014 up to 66.

"We are calling on Sheriff Yesenia

Sanchez and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to take urgent action in ending the practice of detaining individuals with mental health and substance use needs," said Joy George of Restore Oakland, Inc. in a statement. "Sixty-six people have died in Santa Rita Jail since 2014 and our elected officials have poured millions of dollars into a jail that continues to kill those who are in desperate need of medical care. This ends now!"

The most recent in-custody death for Santa Rita occurred on March 1, when Candice "Cody" Vanburen, 33, was pronounced dead at a hospital after being found unresponsive

in a cell the previous day on Feb. 28.

Vanburen's death, which remains under investigation, was preceded by three others at the jail in the early months of 2023.

Elizabeth Laurel, 39, died on Feb. 13 after she was found unresponsive in her cell. Charles Johnson, 45, was pronounced dead at Stanford Health Care in Pleasanton on Feb. 4, two days following a medical emergency at the jail. Determinations on their causes of death are still pending.

The first in-custody death of the year at Santa Rita was Stephen Lofton, 39, in a suspected suicide

See RALLY on Page 6



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

From left: Jeff Parrett, Maksim Kniyazev and Mila Borodavkina pose with Kniyazev's 2023 Ultraman Arizona Triathlon world record plaque.

## Pleasanton-sponsored triathlete breaks record

Russian man, joined by Ukrainian girlfriend and Tri-Valley host, wins Ultraman Arizona Triathlon

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

What happens when you put a Russian, a Ukrainian and a Pleasantonian together? You get a record-breaking triathlon team.

Maksim Kniyazev is a 33-year-old Russia native who, before 2016, had no idea what a triathlon was. But while he worked as a natural resource manager, he came across a video on YouTube of an Ironman Triathlon competition in Hawaii — he was originally looking for the 2008 Marvel "Ironman" movie.

An Ironman Triathlon is one of a series of long-distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation. It typically

consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride and a 26.22-mile run completed in that order.

"When I saw it, I thought 'wow, how is this possible?'" Kniyazev said.

It was then that he decided to conduct what he called a life experiment of seeing if he was able to finish a triathlon — so in 2017 he competed in his first one in Russia.

Now, nearly six years later, he is the record holder for the Ultraman Arizona Triathlon after beating the previous record by nine seconds last month.

"At that moment I was happy with myself ... I felt some special and very unusual emotions," Kniyazev said regarding the

moment he found out he beat the record.

The Ultraman Triathlon is a race that dates back to 1983 when the first Ultraman was held in Hawaii. According to the Ultraman official website, the event is primarily focused on building connections and having the athletes work together so they all cross the finish line at their own pace.

The Arizona race, which was held this year from March 17-19 in Phoenix, had athletes swim for 6.2 miles and ride 90 miles on their bikes for the first day; had them ride their bikes for 171.4 miles the

See TRIATHLETE on Page 11

## 'Race, Power and Poverty' in Tri-Valley

TVNPA presentation spotlights wealth gaps throughout region

By CIERRA BAILEY

Tri-Valley officials, nonprofit leaders, and corporate and private foundations recently gathered for a discussion about "Race, Power and Poverty" delivered by Sheila Burks, manager of equity and inclusion at the Alameda County Food Bank.

Burks discussed the intersectionality of race and power, and how they contribute to poverty in the Tri-Valley. She also shared insights into the systemic causes of poverty and ways to address them.

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Anti-Poverty Collaborative hosted the March 23 event in person at the Rosewood Commons Conference Center in Pleasanton as well as virtually via Zoom.

Burks kicked off the conversation by introducing herself as a "61-year-old Black woman", noting that these aspects of her identity are significant because "in this work of racial and economic justice, I have less time than a lot of people holding this space." She said that at the heart of her work is the goal to, "prepare the world to greet our Black and Brown babies with love, joy, curiosity and affection."

As part of the presentation, Burks shared several countywide statistics on racial and ethnic diversity and the

See POVERTY on Page 10

# Local teachers coalition advocates for better salary, benefits

‘When labor and management are able to work together ... it’s the students who benefit’

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The East Bay Coalition for Student Success, which is made up of 18 California Teachers Association (CTA) chapters across the East Bay including the Tri-Valley, held a press conference last week where they announced positive collaboration efforts between district management and local unions.

Melinda Daly, vice president of the San Ramon Valley Education Association, told the Weekly that focusing on the fact students benefit the most from teachers getting properly compensated for their work has helped garner momentum for the coalition to keep pushing for student-centered labor negotiations.

The specific labor negotiation goals that coalition members said they are advocating for during a March 29 press conference in Concord are better salary pay, fully paid family health insurance through Kaiser, eliminating the out-of-district service restriction and having districts focus on their specific needs such as class sizes.

“When labor and management are able to work together and achieve these standards, it’s the students who benefit,” Daly said. “They benefit the most, because then they have teachers who feel professionally compensated. They don’t have those extra stresses of, you know, fear of health care ...

some people are commuting around two hours and we can eliminate all these things so people can do what they want to do, and that’s teach.”

According to Daly, local unions and CTA chapters formed the coalition last year in order to look at state education funding, post-Covid challenges and other issues that not only affect teachers, but in return affect student success.

The idea was to build a coalition to show strength in numbers and who would stand in solidarity as different unions underwent labor negotiations. The districts that are a part of the coalition stretch from ones such as Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon, all the way up to Pittsburg and Orinda.

“We want to make sure students, regardless of their ZIP code, have access to the best resources. When educators stay in the community, they help improve the emotional and mental well-being of their students,” said Celia Medina-Owens, bargaining chair for the Pittsburg Education Association, in a March 30 press release from the coalition.

Through this coalition, all of these different unions are now connected and can take advice from each other so that they can see what benefits or contract changes are being discussed at other district labor negotiations.

“We’re all working together and



Dozens of members from the East Bay Coalition for Student Success pose for a photo following their press conference on March 29 at the California Teacher’s Association Regional Resource Center in Concord.

we’re able to say, you know, we did it here,” Daly said. “It’s possible, keep working ... because it really is what is best for our students.”

One particularly important standard that the coalition is advocating for, in Daly’s eyes, was regarding better health benefits.

“To not have the stress of the ever fluctuating health care costs, it’s life changing for educators,” Daly said. “That’s why that’s a key standard for East Bay Coalition for Student Success.”

Another important goal for all districts that Daly was adamant about was the out-of-district service cap, which is a practice that many districts have in place where they put a cap on how many years of

experience teachers can bring from another district.

Those years factor into how much a teacher is paid in their salary, meaning if a teacher with 10 years of experience went to a district that had that out-of-district cap, they would only come on to the job with five years of experience — which means they would get paid less.

“It’s a really archaic, old barrier that was put into place to keep people where they are and it is something that in like the year 2023, that does not work anymore,” Daly said.

“Removing the cap conveys values and teacher compensation matters. We know our shared values will be successful for students in the classroom, which we hope are

also successful for other districts in the coalition,” John Swett Unified School District Superintendent Charles Miller said in the March 30 press release.

Now that the coalition has publicly announced the four standards that they say all East Bay districts should aim to achieve in their labor negotiations, Daly said it will only help those local unions in their fight to negotiate for those goals.

“We’re doing the work here in the East Bay to benefit students to give them those best educators and we feel like it’s really something that districts — labor management partnerships — will be able to say come and teach here. This is where you want to be,” Daly said. ■

## RALLY

Continued from Page 5

on Jan. 17.

“These deaths are 100% preventable,” John Lindsay-Poland, of the American Friends Service Committee, said in a statement. “It’s time Alameda County ends its reliance on the criminal legal system to meet the needs of residents with mental health and substance use needs. Resources must be reinvested into an upstream, community-based, life-affirming continuum of care.”

In-custody deaths under uncertain

circumstances during short spans of time at Santa Rita are all too common, according to organizers and speakers at the weekend rally — including Norma Nelson, whose brother Donald Nelson died just two hours after being booked into the jail in 2020, at the hands of another inmate who later pleaded guilty to his murder.

“A person coming to Santa Rita Jail with a mental health or a medical crisis should not receive a death sentence,” Nelson said. “That’s what my brother Donald Nelson received within two hours of being here — a death sentence.”

While the loss was a shock to Nelson and her family, work toward criminal justice reform was not new for Nelson, nor her late brother.

“When he lived with me in 2018, he witnessed me working on education and advocacy around criminal justice reform,” Nelson said. “Who would have thought that me supporting AB 1185 for sheriff accountability and oversight would have such a significant part in my life, that it would impact me personally.”

With the legislation she had been working on being signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom just months before her brother’s death in 2020, Nelson said that the next step was to leverage the legislation locally.

“In the wake of my family’s nightmare, I also want to call attention to the Alameda County League of Women Voters to call on the Board of Supervisors to implement a strong and independent civilian oversight of the sheriff,” Nelson said. “All of the authority is there. The question is whether the political willpower is there.”

“We as a people, we have to apply the pressure where the pressure points need to be placed,” she added.

Dorsey Nunn, executive director for Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, has been working towards supporting inmates and addressing

injustice against incarcerated people since he was released from his own sentence in 1981, having been first booked into Santa Rita himself as a teenager more than a decade prior.

“I got out in 1981. I have had no other job other than fighting for the full restoration of civil and human rights. I turned that into a full-time job,” Nunn said at the Saturday rally.

With decades of experience under his belt, Nunn noted that systemic issues within jails and prisons are nothing new, and becoming all the more clear to more and more people as time goes on.

“At a certain point there is (something) called compassion, and we are sorely missing that as a society, especially when it comes to Black and brown folks,” Nunn said.

Under current conditions, Nunn said that the practices at Santa Rita and within the penal system more broadly were modern forms of slavery.

“The first thing I need to acknowledge is that on this land, we still hold slaves,” Nunn said. “As long as we’re holding slaves we’ll never respect human life ... so it’s people in here dying, and they’ve been dying all the time.”

With Nunn’s remarks concluding the speakers ahead of that afternoon’s march, the dozens of organizers and

supporters at Saturday’s event took to the service road alongside the jail’s barbed-wire fences with instruments, signs, banners, and chants aimed at calling for an end to current practices and offering encouragement and support to those currently behind the jail’s walls, some of whom could be heard drumming on windows and chanting back to demonstrators.

Demonstrators’ demands that day included an immediate end to the arrest and incarceration of people with mental health and substance abuse challenges, and an investigation into the deaths to be ordered by the Board of Supervisors, along with the immediate funding of \$50 million to mental health services that the board committed to last year but has not yet implemented, according to organizers.

“Alameda County’s increasingly uncoordinated and inadequate community-based mental health systems have resulted in deep racial inequities where severely ill and traumatized black and brown residents get funneled into a deadly jail,” Margot Dashiell, of East Bay Supportive Housing Collaborative, said in a statement. “Enough is enough. We are rallying to demand the supervisors address these human-caused crises with urgency.” ■



JEANITA LYMAN

Dorsey Dunn, executive director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, speaks to the crowd gathered outside of Santa Rita Jail on April 1.

## Marquez sworn in as new Alameda County supervisor

Hayward councilwoman fills vacancy created by Valle's death

BY KEITH BURBANK / BCN

A new Alameda County supervisor was sworn in Tuesday morning and took her seat on the dais following the death of her predecessor in February.

Elisa Marquez was a Hayward City Council member before being chosen to replace the late District 2 supervisor Richard Valle, who died Feb. 8 after battling prostate cancer. The District 2 seat includes a portion of Sunol in the Tri-Valley, as well as Hayward, Union City, Newark, portions of Fremont and unincorporated areas.

Marquez was chosen from among three other candidates who were interviewed by the board's four other members March 28. Marquez was selected over Ariana Casanova, who was Valle's choice to succeed him.

"I'm excited" about the work, Marquez said in a brief interview Monday.

Tuesday morning after her swearing in, she said wants to carry on Valle's work.

She will continue as chair of the board of directors for the East Bay Community Energy, which provides clean energy to several cities and rural areas in Alameda County and in Tracy. Marquez said she wanted to remain as chair before the Board of Supervisors interviewed her last week.

Board of Supervisors President Nate Miley said he will be appointing Marquez to the county's Public Protection Committee and among others, its Ad Hoc Committee on Reparations.

Marquez will replace Supervisor David Haubert as the county's representative with the Association of Bay Area Governments.

Miley said Tuesday that his

first choice was Casanova. He chose Marquez and Casanova in the first round of voting.

Miley thinks Marquez may have a steeper learning curve in some respects than Casanova would have because of her work with county workers.

Casanova is a political coordinator and field representative for Service Employees International Union Local 1021. She has held that position since 2009.

Miley said Marquez's work ethic is admirable. She did a good job preparing for last week's interview, he said. Miley was very interested in having another woman on the board and a woman of color.

"I'm happy that we made a decision," Miley said in an interview Monday.

Marquez will fill Valle's seat until next year's election when the winner could unseat her. She said during her interview that she is planning to run in that election.

Casanova said last week that she will be running, too. Casanova was not immediately available to say whether the choice of Marquez last week has affected her decision to run.

Two other applicants with elected experience in the region — Fremont City Councilmember Teresa Keng and Chabot-Las Positas Trustee Harris Mojadedi — were also interviewed for the open supervisor position, but were not among the top-two candidates under final board consideration.

Keng has been a city councilmember in Fremont since 2018.



Elisa Marquez

She served as vice mayor from 2018 to 2020.

Keng and her husband own Milk and Honey Cafe on Fremont Boulevard in Fremont and she would bring a customer-first mentality to her role as supervisor, she said in a phone interview before the board meeting. She would seek to bring more revenue into the county to remedy a county budget deficit, which is looming. She suggested supporting small businesses so people will come here and spend money.

Mojadedi is a Union City resident and a dean at the University of California at Berkeley. He is also trustee of the Chabot-Los Positas Community College District and previously held two other elected positions.

Public safety, housing affordability and economic development were the top three issues plaguing District 2 residents, Mojadedi said during his interview. Multiple generations are living in one home because of the lack of housing affordability, he said. With respect to economic development, he said the district needs more investment and good-paying jobs.

Hayward Mayor Mark Salinas also applied initially for the supervisor seat but decided to withdraw from the process before the interview stage.

When the District 2 seat is on the ballot for short-term election in 2024, whoever is elected will have to run again in two years to stay on the board under District 2's regular four-year election cycle. Term limits do not apply to Alameda County supervisors.

Based on everything she has heard, Supervisor Lena Tam said of Marquez, "She is going to be a tremendous asset to our board." ■

## Tri-Valley school districts ranked in best of state list

PUSD and SRVUSD in top 25, per Niche

BY JEANITA LYMAN

Two Tri-Valley school districts are ranked high up in a recent annual report of districts across California, as well as among school districts in the Bay Area.

The school rankings company and website Niche lists Pleasanton Unified School District as No. 17 in its list of best public school districts in the state this year, and at No. 6 in its list of best districts in the Bay Area. The San Ramon Valley Unified School District is ranked at No. 24 in California, and No. 9 in the Bay Area.

SRVUSD officials said they were pleased with their placement and its reflection of their commitment to ongoing efforts aimed at promoting student success.

"We are very proud of this ranking and especially thankful for the amazing staff across the district who make this possible," SRVUSD officials told the Pleasanton Weekly. "The Strategic Directions in SRVUSD that we developed a couple of years ago are connected to our goal of #SuccessReimagined, and making sure every single student has what they need to thrive."

"Our ranking shows our commitment to building a future where all students can succeed, and we will get there by listening to student voices and to all of our partners, and working together with every member of our community — students, staff, parents/caregivers and the wider community — to build that future together," they added.

SRVUSD reps added that while they had been seeking to ensure Niche had accurate and timely information on the district ahead

See RANKED on Page 8

  
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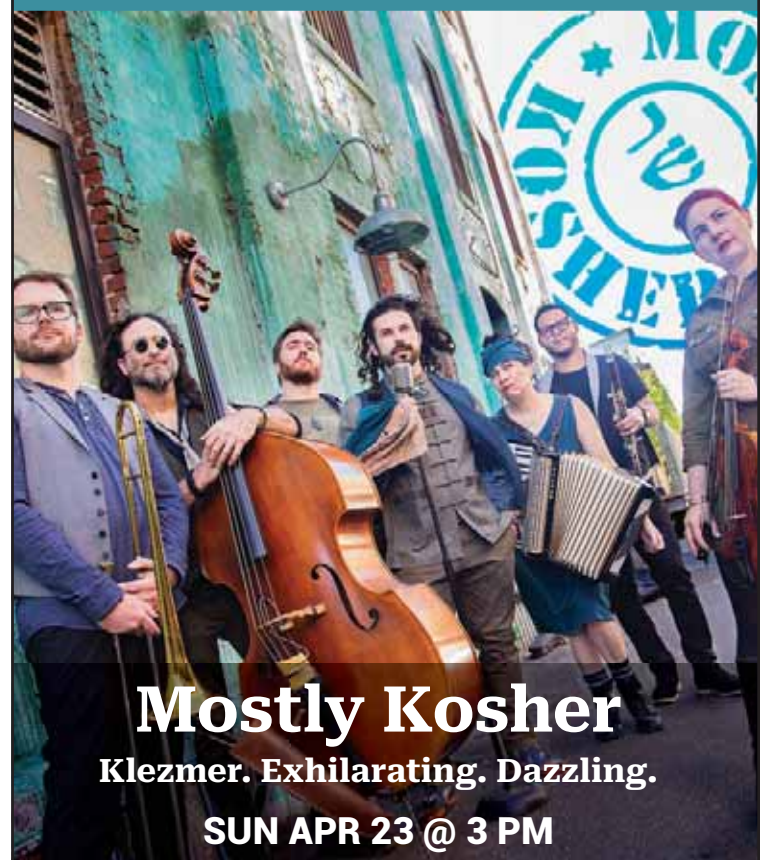
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# Livermore chamber names Souza interim CEO

'I am honored to have this opportunity to work in the LVCC organization'

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce has promoted its director of operations, Sherri Souza, to interim CEO and president.

"I am so pleased to have Sherri on the chamber team. She brings a breadth of experience to her position and her reputation is an important asset as we enhance the value of service to our members and strengthen the economic health

of the community," said Jody Amos, president of Amos Productions and LVCC board chair.

According to a statement from the organization, Amos formally announced the transition to the LVCC Board of Directors on March 29.



Sherri Souza

Souza is a longtime Livermore resident and previously served 20 years as a local Realtor. She was the chamber's director of operations for 17 months before being named interim CEO.

During her time in real estate, she was deeply involved in Bay East Association of Realtors, the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. She also served as the national president for the Women's

Council of Realtors in 2017 and state president for the same organization in 2011.

"I am honored to have this opportunity to work in the LVCC organization," Souza said in a statement. "Its members represent the most respected businesses and organizations in their fields. The economic vitality that the chamber's members contribute to the Livermore Valley region is gaining increased attention from

entrepreneurs and investors from the Silicon Valley and beyond. It is an exciting time to be a part of the most successful chamber in the Tri-Valley."

Souza is taking over the reins from Dawn Argula, who had served as chamber CEO since 2016. According to chamber officials, Argula is currently on a leave of absence and it is unknown at this time if she will return to the position. ■

## Pleasanton PD hires three new officers

Fernandez comes from Milpitas Police Department; Crawford, De Loza are recent academy grads

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Police Department recently welcomed three new officers to the city — Corey Fernandez, Chase Crawford and Martha De Loza.

"I am confident our newest public servants embody our mission, vision and values ... and will continue the high quality of service our community deserves," Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing said in a press release last week.

De Loza and Crawford are graduates of the recent 196th police

academy class from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Training Center.

De Loza previously worked as a corrections officer for Sacramento County Probation Department after having received her bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Sacramento State University.

Crawford, who joined PPD after consulting with his dad who is a retired police officer, received his associate degree in arts and science from San Joaquin Delta College.

Fernandez is the only one of

the three who is coming to the force with previous patrol experience, with the Milpitas Police Department. He also has experience as a middle school teacher and has a bachelor's degree in communications from California State University, Monterey and a master's degree in education from National University.

The new officers officially started on March 27 and had their swearing-in ceremony on March 29, according to Teri Yan, PPD community and public relations coordinator. ■



PPD

From left: Chase Crawford, Martha De Loza and Corey Fernandez get sworn in to the Pleasanton Police Department at the City Council chambers on March 29.

## We're looking for a few interns

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

During the internship period, the intern will be an integral part of the team, participating fully in the process of gathering and presenting news.

Candidates must be responsible, have good writing skills, be available 10 to 12 hours a week and have reliable internet access. Internships require an academic sponsor. Applicants should send a resume, a cover letter explaining your interest and links to at least three examples of journalistic work to editor Jeremy Walsh at [jwalsh@embarcaderopublishing.com](mailto:jwalsh@embarcaderopublishing.com) by noon April 19.

Pleasanton Weekly

Livermore VINE

Danville SanRamon

## RANKED

Continued from Page 7

of this year's rankings, their commitment to new visions of student

success would continue irrespective of any future rankings from the organization.

"Additionally, we have actually been in discussions with Niche since the end of February on how

to make sure all of our information is accurate and updated in their system," SRVUSD officials said. "What we know with confidence is that we will meet our goal of #SuccessReimagined for all students regardless of whether our Niche ranking goes higher as a result of our commitment to this work."

PUSD officials were not available to comment as of Tuesday afternoon.

Niche analyzes data from sources including the U.S. Department of Education on graduation rates and test scores, as well as Common Core and civil rights data and parent and student surveys.

California has 977 school districts, of which 440 were ranked by Niche in the latest report.

While no other Tri-Valley school districts were listed in the top 25 across the state, according to this year's data, the Dublin Unified School District wasn't far behind, coming in at No. 28 in the state rankings and No. 11 in the Bay Area. The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District came in at No. 107 in the state rankings, and No. 25 in the Bay Area rankings.

Nationally, PUSD was ranked at No. 107 in the list of best school districts in the country, with SRVUSD coming in at 164th and DUSD at 211th. LVJUSD was not listed in the national rankings. ■



CHUCK DECKERT

## Celebrating 40 years of friendship

Pleasanton will welcome 25 residents of Tulancingo, Mexico from April 18-24 in what will mark the 40th anniversary delegation visit between the two sister cities. Events organized by the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association that are open to the public include a welcome dinner at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel on April 19, an "Early Thanksgiving" dinner at the Senior Center on April 21 and a farewell dinner at the DoubleTree on April 23 (each at a cost of \$60), as well as a free family picnic on April 23 at Ken Mercer Sports Park. To learn more, visit [ptsca.org](http://ptsca.org) or call 925-989-6882. Shown: PTSCA president Jorge Victoria and committee member Dick Stafford pose with the statue of late association co-founder Bob Athenour unveiled in Tulancingo last year.

# County forms commission to look at reparations for Black residents

‘Today, we as Black people live under the shadow of slavery,’  
Supervisor Carson says

By KEITH BURBANK / BCN

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has approved the formation of a commission that will create an action plan to address inequities caused by slavery and discrimination against Black residents.

The commission will be appointed by the board and have up to 15 members from a variety of backgrounds. Members may include someone who was displaced by gentrification and a person who was incarcerated.

Board President Nate Miley said at the March 28 meeting that the board is not proposing putting checks in

the pockets of African Americans, though that could happen. Other forms of reparations may occur, too.

“Today, we as Black people live under the shadow of slavery,” Supervisor Keith Carson said. “It wasn’t 150 years ago, it wasn’t 250 years ago, it continues to persist today.”

Black people comprise the largest number of homeless individuals in the country, Carson said, and thousands of Black people were experimented on. Earlier in his comments, Carson referred to the Tuskegee experiment in which researchers did not obtain the consent of the men

who participated or offer penicillin even after it was widely available to treat syphilis.

Black people in the judicial system “have never received equal protection under the law,” he said.

Black people have been kept out of “institutions of higher learning” and they are lowest paid people in the job market, Carson said.

“The United States government has documented its participation in making drugs available to Black communities,” he said.

Then the government built bigger prisons, he said, put Black people in prisons for long periods of time and

enacted three strike laws.

Other jurisdictions have formed committees, commissions or task forces. The state of California is one. San Francisco formed a committee of 15 members that will submit research to its Board of Supervisors, according to a presentation by Caleb Matthews from Miley’s office.

Los Angeles formed a reparations advisory commission in June 2021 and Asheville, N.C., and Evanston, Ill., are working toward reparations, the presentation said.

Appointments to Alameda County’s commission are expected to occur no later than July 1, Matthews said during the presentation.

The commission would report bi-monthly to an ad hoc committee of the board with the goal of adopting reparations by July of next year.

Matthews defined reparations as making amends “by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged.”

He named five areas of reparations. Three of those are compensation such as cash payments, restitution such as the return of land, and the provision of rehabilitative services such as medical or legal services.

Other forms of reparations may come in the form of policy reform, public apologies and memorials. ■

## Swalwell joins others to reintroduce ‘air rage’ bill

‘Protection from Abusive Passengers Act’ returns to lawmakers

By JEANITA LYMAN

Tri-Valley Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore) joined two fellow lawmakers in a press conference last week to reintroduce legislation they’d first put forward one year ago, as high-profile incidents of belligerent airplane passengers continue to make headlines.

The “Protection from Abusive Passengers Act” would seek to mitigate attacks and unruly, aggressive behavior against airline crew, pilots and fellow passengers by putting stricter penalties into place, including a no-fly list for passengers who exhibit abusive behavior toward others on board commercial aircrafts.

“This is simply to make sure when it comes to flying we protect the people who protect us,” Swalwell said in the March 29 press conference. “The pilots, the flight attendants, the flight crew — they’ve worked hard over the past few years. They’ve been through hell and back from this pandemic to just this very tense hot political environment in America.”

The bill was first introduced in the House on April 6, 2022, where it was referred to several subcommittees including those on aviation and on homeland security. Swalwell is joined in his efforts to push the legislation forward by U.S. Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.) and fellow Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Penn.).

The initial introduction of the bill came on the heels of sky-high numbers of reports and investigations into unruly passengers by the Federal Aviation Administration in 2021, which received 5,981 reports and initiated 1,099 investigations that year. Of the incident reports, 4,290 were related to mask requirements.

But with mask requirements lifted

on April 18, 2022, shortly after Swalwell and fellow lawmakers first introduced the bill, the FAA continues to report record numbers of combative and unruly passengers in its 2022 data, with 2,456 reports resulting in 831 investigations.

According to FAA data since 1995, the number of investigations into unruly airline passenger behavior ranged from 91 investigations to 310 investigations per year prior to 2021. In 2020, 183 investigations were reported by the FAA, with 146 investigations in 2019.

“Mask mandates have ended,” Reed said in an announcement. “Still, the epidemic of air rage continues and this elevated level of in-flight violence has to stop.”

The bill would enable the Transportation Security Administration to create and enforce a federal “no-fly” list that would prevent passengers who have engaged in violence aboard aircrafts from continuing to fly on commercial airlines, regardless of the carrier.

“We want to be transparent,” Swalwell said. “We want it to be the most transparent part of your flight experience. When it comes to violence, if you try you will not fly.”

Swalwell sought to emphasize the human toll that rising levels of violence had taken on airline crew and pilots, a group of whom were present at the March 29 press briefing, with several sharing harrowing stories of attacks on-board and ongoing physical and psychological trauma.



Eric Swalwell

“Feedback that I heard from flight attendants and pilots is this isn’t what we signed up for,” Swalwell said. “We’re willing to be away from our families, we’re willing to get you to your wedding, your business trip, to your funeral, to your kid’s graduation, that long-awaited vacation — we’re willing to do all of that and to get you there safely. But we didn’t sign up to break up a fistfight at 30,000 feet.”

The goal of the legislation, in addition to enforcing harsher penalties for violence in the skies, was to prevent it and to clarify the expectations for behavior aboard commercial aircrafts, according to Swalwell.

“So we want it to be clear to every passenger that boards a plane — this legislation will put a process in place, which right now, the process is not formalized, it’s ad-hoc. But a process will be put in place to make sure every passenger knows that if you commit violence in the skies you will no longer fly.”

Given the continued rise in violent incidents from passengers that continue to make headlines and draw public scrutiny, Swalwell and Fitzpatrick both said that they were confident in it moving forward with bipartisan support from their colleagues in the house, as well as Reed’s championing of the bill in the Senate.

“There’s a lot of issues that Republicans and Democrats battle over every single day, but when it comes to pilot and flight attendant safety, there is no distance between us,” Swalwell said. “Their safety has to come first, because if they’re safe, all of us can get to our destination safely. That’s what this legislation is about.” ■

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### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Planning Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Ave, and via Zoom

- The Planning Commission is scheduled to review, consider, and provide a recommendation for modifications to Objective Design Standards (ODS) for Housing Sites.

#### Youth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Remillard Conference Room, 3333 Busch Rd.

- Discuss Potential Grant Program for Pleasanton Youth

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visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)

# Michigan-based Sullair purchases Livermore air compression company

California Compression & CDA Systems to keep own name, for now

By NICOLE GONZALES

Sullair, a Michigan-based commercial manufacturing company, has announced its purchase of California Compression and CDA Systems in Livermore.

Company representatives have confirmed that all employees are to remain in their respective roles throughout the purchase transition period. Specific terms of the transaction were not disclosed by either party.

Sullair, founded in 1965, has been known for its production of air systems and compressors with manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and China. Sullair's products are used in a variety of industrial categories, including oil

and gas operations, construction and food processing.

In a recent press release, Sullair company leadership shared reflections on the acquisition and new facility.

"Sullair is committed to building a customer-forward company and providing our customers with a total seamless solution to their compressed air needs," John Randall, president and CEO of Sullair, stated in a press release.

"California Compression and CDA Systems are well known for their customer service, industry expertise and end-to-end capabilities. Adding these two companies to the Sullair owned-distribution network allows

us to better service the evolving needs of both our current and future customers in the strategic Northern and Central California regions," Randall added.

California Compression had served as an independent distributor of Sullair products since 2017. The Livermore business sold and offered expert knowledge of Sullair products.

Scott Gerner, general manager and director of sales at California Compression, also shared his thoughts regarding the purchase.

"Our business was founded on putting the customer first which is one of the reasons our distributor partnership with Sullair was so successful," Gerner said. "As we become



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Livermore's California Compression & CDA Systems has been recently purchased by Michigan-based manufacturer Sullair.

a permanent member of the Sullair family we will have even more tools and capabilities at our fingertips to continue to provide the personalized and expert service our customers

have come to expect."

The companies are to operate under their own names until the transition is complete to ensure adequate service to the total customer base. ■

## EBRPD recognizes Bauer-Kahan with annual award

Assemblymember receives 2022 Radke Championing Advocacy Award

By JEANITA LYMAN

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) is the latest recipient of the East Bay Regional Park District's annual award recognizing advocacy efforts aimed at securing funding for preservation efforts in the region.

Bauer-Kahan was recognized in an awards ceremony at Inspiration Point in Tilden Park on March 3

with the 2022 Radke Championing Advocacy Award for her work in securing \$4 million in the 2019-20 state budget to fund restoration efforts at McCosker Creek near Orinda, along with \$3.5 million in that year's budget to fund new wildfire protection equipment.

For EBRPD, the latter funding enabled the agency to replace its aging helicopter for extinguishing fires in inaccessible portions of the

district.

"The East Bay Regional Park District provides an essential service to the community providing opportunities for healthy recreation and protecting our environment," Bauer-Kahan said in a statement. "I am proud to partner with the Park District and support the critical work they do to ensure public access to parklands, preserve habitat for wildlife, and maintain healthy

forests to protect against wildfires."

As chair of the Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife, Bauer-Kahan has been at the forefront of legislation and funding for environmental efforts during her tenure in the State Assembly, beginning in 2018.

"The Park District thanks Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan for her leadership in obtaining critical funds in the state budget

for environmental restoration and wildfire protection," EBRPD General Manager Sabrina Landreth said. "Investments in environment restoration and resiliency is a priority to meet the State's 30x30 goals to address the changing climate. And, funding up-to-date firefighting equipment is vital to stopping wildfires quickly, limiting the destruction of property, and, most of all, protecting lives." ■

## POVERTY

Continued from Page 5

historic, systemic roots of inequality such as the practice of redlining which refers to the denial of services like mortgages, insurance loans and other financial services to residents of certain areas based on their race or ethnicity.

While this form of discrimination is prohibited today, the effects of it still persist and contribute to the racial disparities in poverty levels throughout Alameda County and the entire country.

Burks presented some specific Tri-Valley statistics on poverty, including that there are 87,955 people living in

Livermore of which 4% struggle with poverty, and of the 79,871 people living in Pleasanton, nearly 5% struggle with poverty. In Dublin, 3.7% of its population of 72,589 are struggling with poverty.

To afford two-bedroom housing in Alameda County, a household needs to earn \$43.73 an hour, which is nearly three times the minimum wage of \$15.50 per hour.

"Oftentimes, the Tri-Valley is viewed as a suburbia and as a result, poverty is not discussed or addressed. However, this is not the case. There is poverty in our neighborhoods, it's just hidden. The message that I heard was that we can all experience poverty because it's a circumstance, not

a lifestyle," Livermore school board Trustee Yanira Guzmán said in a statement following the event.

Burks emphasized during her presentation that the effects of racism and poverty is a collective issue. "If we're still talking about 'they, them and those people,' we're missing the point. This is about we, our and us," she said.

Black and brown households are more than twice as likely to have challenges paying day-to-day expenses, according to Burks, but poverty can also be looming for many Alameda County residents of all races.

According to information from the Public Policy Institute of California shared during Burks' presentation, most Californians can be pushed into poverty by the smallest expenses. People near poverty are more likely to be pushed into poverty by a small expense than a large expense and as expenses grow, the total number of people threatened climbs. Three out of four people near poverty — or 5.4 million — are pushed into poverty by an extra \$1,000.

While society is recovering from a pandemic that presented many financial challenges for people, Burks highlighted that a number of families were actually able to have more stability during the pandemic because of the extra support and benefits that

were being offered.

She pointed to the example of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) — or CalFresh in California — which saw a temporary increase put in place amid the pandemic to assist low-income individuals and families to buy groceries.

"The poverty rate in 2021 went down — in the middle of a pandemic and a racial justice movement — how did that happen? Things like the child tax credit, things like enhanced unemployment benefits, things like the eviction moratorium," she said.

The additional SNAP benefits were discontinued in March and allotments returned to normal amounts, which for many families is barely enough to make ends meet.

Further underscoring the correlation between poverty and public assistance, Burks shared an overview of "Five Facts Everyone Should Know About Deep Poverty," according to a 2015 report from the California Budget & Policy Center. The report spotlighted how public support and strengthening the safety net for people through federal measures is critical to addressing poverty.

Among the five facts in the report are that children comprise a disproportionate share of Californians living in deep poverty, being born into deep poverty more than doubles

children's chances of having low incomes as adults, adults who live in deep poverty face significant barriers to employment, deep poverty rises and falls depending on the strength of the safety net and strengthening public supports would lift more Californians out of deep poverty.

"The state of poverty and racism in our community was made by policies — that needs to be very clear to you — and so it's going to take policy and changes to institutions and structures to get out of this," Burks told the audience during the event.

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Anti-Poverty Collaborative is focused on creating a collective voice and taking action to alleviate poverty in the Tri-Valley, according to a statement from the organization.

The "Race, Power and Poverty" event was part of the group's effort to bring community leaders and residents together to further its goals of establishing a more equitable society and eradicating poverty. The organization plans to host another event in late September or early October titled, "Bridging the Gap: Expert Insights on Alleviating Poverty in the Tri-Valley."

For more information about the Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Anti-Poverty Collaborative, visit [www.tvnnpa.org](http://www.tvnnpa.org). ■



TVNPA

Sheila Burks, manager of equity and inclusion at the Alameda County Food Bank, led a presentation on March 23 about "Race, Power and Poverty" in the Tri-Valley.

**TRIATHLETE**

Continued from Page 5

second; and was topped with a 52.4 mile marathon the last day.

Kniazev had competed in an Ultraman Triathlon back in Russia in 2020 but because of the pandemic, he wasn't able to travel anywhere else to compete.

But when the travel restrictions were lifted, he decided to visit the United States early last year to chase his dreams of becoming a professional competitive triathlon athlete.

It was during that first visit when he met his current girlfriend, Mila Borodavkina. Borodavkina is originally from the Ukraine and had moved here with her sister and her two children.

After taking some time away and coming back to California, Borodavkina reconnected with Kniazev who had gone back to Russia at the time. Borodavkina said that after some time, she had managed to convince Kniazev to return to the U.S. and told him that she would help him find a place to live and maybe even a sponsor for his semi-professional career.

That's when retired Pleasanton resident Jeff Parrett came into the picture.

The now-retired Workday employee said that he travels a lot and at the time was looking for someone to help him take care of the

house while he was away.

After meeting Borodavkina, who was being hosted by Parrett's neighbors, she told him about Kniazev and his dreams of becoming a professional triathlon athlete.

"I love a person that has a big dream," Parrett said.

So Parrett began hosting and even sponsoring Kniazev with a side business — which ended up being the beginning of a new team.

After his team was set, Kniazev began pursuing his main one goal: to beat the world record for the Ultraman Triathlon in Arizona.

He said that he would train 28 to 31 hours per week, while also helping Parrett with chores around the house.

The team practiced everything from handing off food and water to Kniazev from a car while he was running, to mapping out the course so that Kniazev knew where the turns were.

But on the day of the race, it all came down to Kniazev and his own will to make it happen.

Initially, he started the competition a bit muddy — literally. The first day was a 6.2-mile swim in cold water, which is something he was not prepared for as he had been practicing in warmer waters.

"The water is the most uncomfortable part of a triathlon, (especially) for the guys who are not swimmers because you can't stop, you can't get some rest," Kniazev said. "You really

feel for the whole distance that you (might) die."

Apart from the 57-degree water, which according to the National Center for Cold Water Safety could be life threatening, he also said the water itself was covered in mud and debris.

"It was more like a swamp," Borodavkina said.

But the team came through for Kniazev after having brought him swim socks to keep his feet warm and gave him hot beverages to keep his internal temperature warm.

From there, the rest of the first and next day went more or less according to plan as he sped through the open course on his bike and began his final day running the double marathon.

But after the first 26 miles of the run during the first marathon, Kniazev started getting the first signs from fatigue. His legs started feeling heavy and unresponsive.

That's when he knew he had to really step up the pace and run every mile from there on out in seven minutes and 15 seconds to achieve his goal.

But on one of the final hill climbs, where he didn't have his team near him, his pace began to drop even more.

"In that moment I lost all hope to achieve my goal," Kniazev said, adding that at that point his legs were so stiff that all of his steps felt like he was taking hits to his quads.

It was then that he realized he needed to run each of the last five miles in seven minutes or less to beat the record

"When he came down that hill and we got back in contact with him ... I yelled to him, I said 'you can do it (Maksim)," Parrett said.

The next thing Kniazev knew, he had crossed the finish line and after confirming with the record keeper and other race officials, he found out that he did it. His final time was 21 hours, 21 minutes and five seconds — meaning he beat the record by nine seconds.

"Just imagine (the) many moments where I could have lost nine seconds

... just some time to stay here a little more, some traffic lights, stop signs," Kniazev said.

Now, with one record under his belt, Kniazev is far from done.

He said his next goal is to compete and break the record for the 2023 Ironman World Championship in Hawaii this coming September.

He added that despite the humidity, rough terrains and high elevation, he will do everything he can to achieve his dream.

"The main goal, like my own American dream ... is to make some path in Ultraman Triathlon history; not only to win but to also break records," Kniazev said. ■

**TAKE US ALONG**



The final continent: Pleasanton residents Rick and Mickey Hammel, and Kath and Mike Ferreira each crossed the seventh and final continent off their list when they visited Antarctica in February.

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**CONNECTION 2023**

# 2023 State of the City

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown highlights city achievements over the past year

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown poses at the Alviso Adobe Community Park before heading out to draft her 2023 State of the City speech, which she presented to over 300 people on March 29 at the Palm Event Center.

**M**ore than 300 city employees, company sponsors and Pleasanton residents attended Mayor Karla Brown's 2023 State of the City event March 29, where she updated the crowd on things like new housing developments and how the city bounced back after the last few pandemic years.

"Last year, we leaned-in and defined a new normal," Brown said. "We embraced positive changes like parklets and we continued to support outdoor dining throughout the community. We supported businesses as they bounced back, and we got back to full programming as a city for our activities and community events. From my

point of view, we came back well-prepared for what's ahead."

During the event, which was hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, Brown went through a list of projects that the city has either completed or is scheduled to complete.

One of the first projects that she talked about was the Johnson Drive Economic Development Zone project — otherwise known as the Costco project.

This project will aim to redevelop approximately 40 acres of land fronting Johnson Drive, near Stoneridge Drive and Interstate 680. The goal is to build a commercial corridor — including two new hotels, a new Costco and overall road improvements — that Brown said will generate new tax revenue to support the city.

She said that while the recent rains and storms have delayed Costco's groundbreaking, the goal is to have it open to the public by early 2024. The hotels are already under construction.

Some of the other big projects Brown went over were the city's recently adopted 2023-31 Housing Element, which designates sites where housing can be built to meet state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) numbers. She also told the audience about the Stoneridge Mall Framework, which aims to gather input from the property owners at the

**'We are a community of people who care about creating opportunities.'**

**Karla Brown,**  
Mayor of Pleasanton

shopping center and the community to redevelop the area with more housing. The property was zoned as one of the largest sites in the Housing Element.

The council had approved construction to begin work on a 360-unit multi-family housing project at the shopping center the week before her address.

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

"We are doing our part, and as proof Pleasanton's housing growth was in the top 20% over the past 10 years," Brown said. "With sites distributed throughout the city, it is a plan we can be proud of and a plan we can continue to grow with."

"Over the past few years, we have all come to recognize that retail spaces are



Brown highlighted a number of projects that the city has either begun work on or approved for construction in the next few years.



Mayor Brown talks to one of the many tables during the luncheon portion of the program, thanking the people for attending the event.

changing — and the Stoneridge Shopping Center is no exception,” Brown added. “With a shift in how goods are purchased and delivered, a new vision is needed to ensure the mall remains a vibrant trademark of our community.”

Another big item of interest to the Pleasanton community that Brown went over was the work in addressing a solution to the city finding PFAS chemicals, otherwise known as “forever chemicals,” in three city-operated groundwater wells.

She said that as city staff — along with the help of the Zone 7 Water Agency — continues to explore different alternatives to supplying the 20% of water those wells typically produce for residents, the city is asking residents to continue meeting the 15% water conservation threshold that has been in place since the last drought.

Brown added that during a recent trip to Washington, D.C., for a conference of all the mayors in the country, she engaged with federal representatives and agency staff to discuss how best to address PFAS.

Another big highlight of Brown’s speech was regarding the city’s budget.

According to Brown, the city’s economy continues to be financially strong and that the \$80 million of property taxes from last year made up 57% of the city’s revenue last year.

She also mentioned that the city saw a surplus of \$5.7 million.

But as the city prepares to enter into budget discussions on what projects to fund later this month, Brown said it is important to point out that the city is working on changing how projects will be prioritized through a five-year city-wide strategic plan.

The city recently launched a new strategic planning process that will create a foundation and a focus for our priority-setting process,” Brown said. “The new plan will consider financial and staff

resources, infrastructure maintenance and project timelines to provide a continuous approach of planning that will help maintain our momentum and our top priorities.”

One of the projects that Brown highlighted as a future project that she is excited about was the Valley Link rail system. Valley Link would be a hydrogen-fueled rail system with zero carbon emissions that would remove 30,000 cars from the roads every day.

She said that while this project wouldn’t be completed until years down the road, future generations will be able to benefit from the rail system. Brown added that she and the four other Tri-Valley mayors recently lobbied in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C., so the region could receive the funding to complete the design and construction of the project.

On the topic of transportation, Brown also pointed out that the Alameda County

## ‘A new vision is needed to ensure the mall remains a vibrant trademark of our community.’

Transportation Commission board is working on funding and constructing the missing link for the I-680 HOV lane from San Ramon to Sunol.

She also reported that the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority is currently testing their small driverless buses called Shared Autonomous Vehicles. These state-of-the-art electric buses will help improve first- and last-mile connections to BART stations.

As Brown touched on overall statistics such as how Pleasanton is the 11th safest

city in California and 50th in the country, how more than 50% of businesses that responded to a survey said they’ve been in the city for over 10 years and how the city is making strides in mental health calls through its Alternative Response Unit.

She wrapped up by pointing out the fun stuff that happened last year, such as the construction of new pickleball courts at Muirwood Community Park and the return of Weekends on Main Street this year. These were just some of the projects that Brown said were ways the city brought businesses, community members and everyone else together.

“This is more than a place where we live,” Brown said during her closing remarks. “We are a community of people who care about creating opportunities so that each of our businesses and 80,000 residents have what they need to proudly call Pleasanton their home.” ■



City staff, local business representatives and Pleasanton residents all take out their phone and snap photos as part of an activity that had them post on their social media.

## New murals unveiled behind Pleasanton Cultural Arts building

### Temporary displays part of PCAC's 'Rebuilding Community Through Art' initiative

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton resident Lynda Briggs has always had a passion for hiking and open spaces. So it's no surprise that the local artist's new mural at the Pleasanton Cultural Arts building is of a giant Californian quail on a trail.

"I really found that when you're out there in nature, you connect in a way that is just so personal," Briggs said. "I felt like creating this piece was also that."

Briggs' piece, titled "Gentle Beauty", is one of two temporary public art murals that were unveiled to a crowd of nearly 30 people last Friday behind the Pleasanton Cultural Arts building located at the Amador Valley Community Park on Black Avenue.

The other piece, "Joy", was designed by Switzerland-based artist Judith Kunzle — who gave Vera Lowdermilk, a longtime artist based in Livermore, permission to paint the mural.

Lowdermilk, who previously worked with Livermore artist Kean Butterfield to paint the Firehouse Mural on the side wall of Sanctuary Ultra Lounge in Livermore, said it meant a lot to be able to paint Kunzle's design and have it displayed in Pleasanton for everyone to see.

"I love the opportunity to paint," Lowdermilk said. "I keep looking at (empty walls) and thinking of what I could paint there ... It's just what I love doing."

Both murals were the product of two years of hard work and collaboration between the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC),

the city's Civic Arts and Parks and Recreation commissions, and city staff.

"We know it takes a village to have public art and events like this, so that we can show off our great artwork in the community," PCAC President Kelly Cousins told the crowd last week.

She also explained how back in June of last year, the Civic Arts Commission voted to approve the PCAC's proposal to install both of these murals as part of the art council's "Rebuilding Community Through Art" project.

"The vision was to inspire a dialogue about public art and renew hope, with the possibility of a better tomorrow," Cousins said.

The project had previously received a 2021-22 civic arts community grant from the city, which awards funding to nonprofits that work with the arts, culture and youth programs in Pleasanton. That funding helped cover costs in the public input process, design work, artistic materials and artist payments.

Cousins also explained how the PCAC gathered public input both online and in person at locations throughout the city, which was used to select both of the murals. She said Pleasanton residents seemed to have chosen both of the pieces because they wanted to see themes of connectivity and protection for the environment displayed at the cultural arts building.

"Our data confirm that the community's aching, COVID heart missed celebrations and collectiveness," she said. "Both new murals artistically represent human



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Above: Artist Lynda Briggs said her piece, "Gentle Beauty", was inspired by her passion for nature. Below: "Joy" was designed by Switzerland-based artist Judith Kunzle and painted by Livermore's Vera Lowdermilk.

connectivity, positive energy and appreciation for nature."

"Through these murals, we see our diversity and confirm our similarities by acknowledging our strong bond with our natural surroundings," she added.

Briggs, who in the past had some of her work featured in the Firehouse Arts Center lobby and the Livermore Public Library, said that those natural surroundings — especially in the Tri-Valley — were her main inspiration for her piece.

She explained how she felt her work was becoming stagnant, and that when her husband went on a work sabbatical and they began going on longer hikes, she rediscovered her passion for art by just being in nature.

"You go out there and you just feel so connected to everything around you," Briggs said. "If there's anything that I want my artwork to translate is this sense of just calm and peace."

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown also spoke during the unveiling of both murals



and emphasized the importance of art being celebrated and displayed throughout the city.

"One thing is clear: art cannot be measured in dollars and cents," Brown said. "It stirs the heart, it stirs emotions and it also touches our values."

"I believe I represent the majority of the council when I say we are a strong supporter of the arts, and we hope to continue to support local artists in our growing community," she added.

Cousins doubled down on that thought during her speech and is hopeful that the community will

appreciate the hard work that the artists have put into creating these pieces of art.

"Public art can heighten our imagination with joy, bring a strong gentle appreciation of the beauty of our environment and give voice to the women who have shaped our story through their extraordinary artistic skills," she said.

The temporary murals don't have a specific date to be taken down and will be rotated out as new art pieces are considered for display at the location, according to Nick Binzoni, community and public relations coordinator for the city. ■



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Members of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, city staff and some of the City Council pose in front of the two murals during the unveiling event March 31.

# East Bay Jazz All-Stars take to stages in Livermore

Youth music program remains only of its kind in Tri-Valley

By NICOLE GONZALES

An extracurricular musical program known as East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars has entered its seventh season of performances in and around the Tri-Valley.

The program operates after school for the students and works to train, educate and prepare them for professional musical development. Audiences can catch upcoming shows in the region this month.

With the current season now in full swing, the East Bay Jazz founder spoke to the Weekly about his reflections on the program over the years. Growing up, Spencer Sussman was aware of various jazz music programs, such as SFJazz High School All-Stars, for students wanting to gear themselves toward live band performances.

"I was familiar with these types of extracurricular music academies. I always really liked seeing young musicians play at a high level, the kind that sounded like a professional group even as high schoolers," Sussman said. An accomplished musician in his own right, Sussman regularly performs and composes music across the region.

Following the completion of his graduate education at San Jose State

University in 2013, Sussman was inspired to start a similar music program in the East Bay region.

"Having grown up in Pleasanton, I knew that there were a lot of great musicians still in the area and yet there wasn't a program in the area that had the same format as some of these other all-stars type of groups," he added.

"I just thought it would be a fun opportunity to create a really good band of kids that wanted to play music at a high level, in the area that I grew up in," Sussman said. "What has kept me going with this is building a culture and a community that continues to give students a unique outlet to play music with other like minded musicians."

East Bay Jazz is made up of two ensembles, a big band which features over 20 musicians, and a combo band which is around eight players. Each ensemble has performed in a variety of different jazz styles over the years including hot-style, funk, cool jazz and swing.

Students in the program rehearse weekly after school.

While similar programs exist throughout the nation, East Bay Jazz is the first and only one of its kind in the Tri-Valley area.

"East Bay Jazz High School Stars, as I like to call it, is a pre-professional training and extracurricular music program for high school-age students," Sussman explained. "We have a varied performance schedule that kind of gives the students a window into what it's like being a professional musician."

"These are like some really formative experiences for them, it's very new. It's a unique opportunity for the students to work with a lot of other people, their peers or guest musicians," he said. "It's cool seeing them get so excited about it because I forget how new it is for some of them. I'm inspired by them."

Currently, the program hosts 21 students from all over the area, from Fremont to Livermore to Brentwood.

"There's a lot of great moments," Sussman said. "Something that I've always been proud of about the program is watching students who are really passionate about music performance and jazz really rise to the occasion and develop as musicians."

When thinking about past seasons and performances, Sussman feels incredibly proud of how far his students have come.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students from East Bay Jazz High School All-Stars sit in an empty theater venue in rehearsal.

"Watching a group of musicians that I coached lead an ensemble themselves and seeing them rise to the occasion and play some music that is both complex but also very much them, really reflects the work they put in," Sussman said. "That just made me really happy to see that it was possible in part because of the program that I created to kind of give them the opportunity to have that."

Regardless of their musical background, students of varying skill levels are invited to join the musical

community and share a love of jazz music.

Tri-Valley residents can support East Bay Jazz All-Stars by attending upcoming live events this month.

On April 16, the ensemble showcases its skills at the Almost Famous Wine Lounge in Livermore at 4 p.m. On April 30, the group will take to the Bankhead Theater stage in downtown Livermore.

To find out more information or apply for the group, visit [www.eastbayjazz.org](http://www.eastbayjazz.org). ■

## John Oates to headline at Bankhead Theater

Concert to feature acoustic set, storytelling

By NICOLE GONZALES

Famed songwriter and musician John Oates will be performing at Livermore's Bankhead Theater next Friday night (April 14).

The musician may be best known as part of one of the best-selling duos of all time, Hall & Oates. The band rose to worldwide fame during the 1970s and had a series of successful No. 1 singles and Grammy nominations.

Both Oates and Daryl Hall are members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and The American Songwriters Hall of Fame for the music they produced working together. After leaving the duo in 1999, Oates achieved success with his solo music endeavors and has since released seven studio albums.

Livermore Valley Arts officials have expressed excitement over the upcoming Bankhead performance by Oates.

"He is one half of the most popular duos of all time, so what a great opportunity to see his own solo music live," said Ruth Eggherman, LVA spokesperson and director of marketing.

Eggherman shared that Oates' live set will include an acoustic and

storytelling portion, in addition to renditions of his more popular songs.

"He's gonna be performing an acoustic set as well and telling stories along the way," Eggherman said. "I think that we have a great opportunity to share a big star with the Tri-Valley audience and an experience — not just the music, but the stories behind the music which makes it an intimate environment."

Given that Oates has had a huge impact on modern songwriting and music through his own work over the past several decades, Eggherman said she hopes that visitors will reminisce about younger days.

"I just hope that it brings back fond memories for our audience members and that they have a good time. They might be reintroduced to an artist that they once loved and have not listened to in a while," Eggherman said.

Eggherman feels the Bankhead Theater venue is the perfect one for Oates to showcase his skills.

"The utmost importance to the



DAVID MCCLISTER/COURTESY LVA

Singer-songwriter John Oates is playing at the Bankhead on April 14.

entire team is that every patron who walks through the (Bankhead) doors feels special, gets treated well and enjoys the show," Eggherman said. "We hope each audience member has a great experience."

To see more information about the Oates performance or other upcoming Bankhead Theater shows, visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org). ■

## Las Po Film Fest

Returns for second year on April 13

Local student filmmakers are gearing up to showcase their creations at the second annual Las Po Film Fest. "We're excited once again to bring the Las Po Film Fest to our community and offer a platform for student filmmakers to showcase their talent and creativity," festival co-director Elizabeth Wing Brooks said.

The Las Positas College film studies and photography programs will host the Las Po Film Fest next Thursday (April 13) on the main stage theater at the Mertes Center for the Arts.

The festival will feature diverse short films made by LPC student filmmakers, as well as LPC alumni and student filmmakers from other local community colleges and high schools.

"This festival provides an opportunity for both aspiring filmmakers and film enthusiasts to come together and appreciate the art of filmmaking," Brooks said.

The short films range from narratives and documentaries to experimental, animation and music videos.

The festival will begin with a reception at 6 p.m. that will feature a movie poster exhibit, refreshments and pictures on the red carpet.

Film screenings will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Following the screenings, an award reception will be held.

Similar to the Oscars, student filmmakers will be awarded prizes in several categories, including: Director, Comedic Performance, Dramatic Performance, Cinematography, Editing, Score, Sound Design, Story/Narrative, Animation/Stop-Motion, Music Video, Documentary and Experimental.

The awards will also include an Audience Choice award, which will involve live voting by audience members at the end of the screenings.

The festival is free and open to the public. For more information, visit [filmfreeway.com/LasPoFilmFest](http://filmfreeway.com/LasPoFilmFest). ■

# Community Pulse

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Dublin man pleads guilty to identity theft, conspiracy, other counts

A Dublin man pleaded guilty last week to multiple crimes, including conspiracy to distribute marijuana, aggravated identity theft and obstruction of justice, federal prosecutors said.

Quenten Giovanni Moody, aka

Christano Rossi, 38, admitted on March 28 transporting marijuana out of state, committing insurance fraud during the COVID-19 pandemic, and creating fake FBI documents to attempt to get two of his government-seized vehicles released back to him.

Between 2017 and 2022, Moody and a co-defendant generated hundreds of thousands of dollars by transporting marijuana bought in California to other states such as Texas, Georgia and Nevada,

prosecutors said. Moody used commercial planes and carrier services to deliver the marijuana and then bring back the cash from its sale.

Beginning in 2020, Moody also participated in a scheme to submit fraudulent unemployment benefit claims during the pandemic. Moody used another person's identity to get a benefits card through Bank of America that he used to buy things at two Las Vegas high-end stores, Louis Vuitton and Cartier.

As part of its investigation, the U.S. government seized two vehicles from Moody in April 2022 that were purchased with money he obtained illegally, a 1969 Chevrolet Camaro and a 1956 Chevrolet pickup truck, prosecutors said.

The vehicles were transported to an FBI field office for storage, but on May 8, a flat-bed truck arrived at the facility and the driver told FBI security personnel that he had been instructed to take the vehicles out of federal custody. The driver gave the FBI security team a document that purported to be an order issued by a judge ordering the U.S. Marshals Service and FBI to release

the vehicles. The documents were fake, however, and were created by Moody.

Moody tried the same thing on May 21, again sending a tow truck and having the driver present fraudulent documentation stating the vehicles were to be released.

"The fraudulent federal court documents had been altered from the previous attempt," prosecutors said.

Shortly before the arrival of the second tow truck, a co-conspirator also allegedly called the FBI field office pretending to be an FBI special agent.

"While in character, the co-conspirator attempted to contact the employees assigned to the gate outside of the field office to facilitate the tow truck gaining access to the FBI property," prosecutors said.

Moody has a sentencing date set for July 11. He is facing a maximum sentence of 40 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$5 million for the marijuana conspiracy, prosecutors said. He is also facing up to 12 years for both the aggravated identity theft and obstruction of justice counts, plus fines of up to \$500,000.

—Katy St. Clair, BCN Foundation

### In other news

• Livermore police arrested two minors in connection with an armed robbery last week and recovered the stolen gun they allegedly used.

Police responded on March 27 to a report of an armed robbery in the area of North Vasco Road and Scenic Avenue. One of the suspects allegedly brandished a firearm at the 22-year-old victim from Bay Point. An officer located the two juvenile suspects a short time later near Garaventa Ranch Road.

During a search of their vehicle, police allegedly found a loaded Glock 19 handgun hidden in the dash behind the fuse box cover. Police said a records check showed the gun was stolen in Oklahoma.

The 16-year-olds, one from Palo Alto and the other from San Jose, were arrested on suspicion of robbery, carrying a concealed weapon, carrying a loaded firearm, and being a minor in possession of a firearm, police said. ■

—Bay City News Service

## Charles Erwin Richey III

June 15, 1941 – March 27, 2023

Charles Erwin Richey III was born in Niles, California on June 15th 1941 to Charles Erwin Richey II and Roberta Scott Clark of Sunol, CA. The family moved to Pleasanton, CA in 1951. He was a graduate of Amador High School, class of 1959. He met his wife Diane and they were married in 1963. He remained a resident of Pleasanton until his death. Charles was a metal fabricator, welder and had a love for hot rods, motorcycles and drag racing. He was a devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for many years. He passed away peacefully and is survived by his wife: Diane, five children: Chuck, Jason, Natalie, Aaron and Josh, and six grandchildren: Chip, Georgia, Camille, Josh Jr., Dylan and Dax. His great-grandchildren Addilynn, Geovany, Freya, Jackson & Elenimae.

Monday, April 10th at 11:00 am  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
3574 Vineyard Ave.

PAID OBITUARY

## Phyllis Lynn

October 3, 1932 – February 26, 2023

Phyllis was an elementary school teacher for the Pleasanton Unified School District from 1970-1993. While she taught at Vintage Hills, she was affectionately known to her students as Mz Lynn or simply Mz. She loved traveling and was a passionate Oakland A's and Raiders fan, with season tickets to both teams, when the Oakland Coliseum was still small. Along with her daughter, Ruthie and son, David, she is survived by her grandkids: Jack, Sean, Cailin, Tom, Ryan and Tommy II.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.  
[www.alz.org/norcal](http://www.alz.org/norcal)



PAID OBITUARY

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### March 30

#### Theft

- 1:08 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 2:16 p.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 2:58 p.m., 2600 block of Trevor Parkway; catalytic converter theft
- 7:21 p.m., 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting

#### DUI

- 4:35 p.m. on the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway

#### Embezzlement

- 5:07 p.m. on the 6000 block of Johnson Drive

### March 29

#### Theft

- 2:22 a.m., 2300 block of Woodthrust Way; catalytic converter theft
- 2:22 a.m., 2700 block of Sanderling Way; catalytic converter theft
- 3:15 a.m., 2500 block of Skimmer Court; catalytic converter theft
- 7:12 a.m., 5000 block of Golden Road; theft from auto
- 9:36 a.m., 7700 block of Creekside Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 9:53 a.m., 4800 block of Woodthrust Road; catalytic converter theft
- 10:45 a.m. on the 3400 block of Andrews Drive
- 5:44 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 8:38 p.m., 4500 block of Denker Drive; theft from auto

#### Warrant arrest

- 7:05 a.m. on the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive

#### Burglary

- 2:49 p.m. on the 3100 block of Valley Avenue

### March 28

#### Robbery

- 4:35 a.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

- 6:17 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Theft

- 10:25 a.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- 12:52 p.m. on the 6700 block of Koll Center Parkway
- 3:19 p.m. on the 100 block of Valley Avenue

#### Fraud

- 12:38 p.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue
- 11:51 p.m. on the 3300 block of Streamside Circle

### March 27

#### Theft

- 6:53 a.m., 6000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto
- 9:54 a.m., 5400 block of Montalvo Court; theft from auto
- 2:31 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from structure
- 3:34 p.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 3:45 p.m. on the 7900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 4:03 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 4:44 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 4:50 p.m., 7400 block of Maywood Drive; catalytic converter theft
- 5:19 p.m., 400 block of Old Bernal Road; bicycle theft
- 6:40 p.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road
- 8:04 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft
- 9:52 p.m., 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive; theft from auto

#### Trespassing/prowling

- 8:39 a.m. on the 5300 block of Hopyard Road

#### Burglary

- 9:03 a.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Loop

#### Fraud

- 9:40 a.m. on the 400 block of Rose Avenue

#### Domestic battery

- 1:35 p.m. on Andrews Drive

#### Robbery

- 8:48 p.m. at Santa Rita Road and Pimlico Drive

#### Warrant arrest

- 10:50 p.m. at Owens Drive and Willow Road

### March 26

#### Theft

- 9:19 a.m., 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue; auto theft
- 9:41 a.m., 5500 block of Sunol Boulevard; auto theft
- 3:42 p.m., 3600 block of Andrews Drive; theft from auto
- 6:31 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 10:10 p.m., 4200 block of Rosewood Drive; catalytic converter theft

#### Drug violation

- 3:34 p.m. on the 4400 block of Black Avenue

#### DUI

- 11:05 p.m. on the 4200 block of Valley Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 11:23 p.m. on the 4300 block of Hacienda Drive

### March 25

#### DUI

- 1:14 a.m. at Stoneridge and Hopyard drives

#### Domestic battery

- 7:18 a.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road

#### Warrant arrest

- 11:22 a.m. at Stoneridge and Franklin drives

#### Theft

- 5:30 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 5:53 p.m. on the 4800 block of Willow Road
- 5:54 p.m., 4500 block of Rosewood Drive; shoplifting
- 6:25 p.m., 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 7:22 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

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## COUPLE'S NET

BY CHANDRAMA ANDERSON

### I do, I don't: One reason feelings matter

Clients often say, "Why do my feelings matter? What's the point? They're not efficient. I've gotten this far without knowing my feelings."

There are many answers to this question. Today, I am going to share a recent personal experience, that lasted for a few weeks, that illustrates why feelings matter.

As you know, I've written the first book in the series of "I Do, I Don't: How to Build a Better Marriage". It's being published on Nov. 1. At the end of each chapter is a section called "Put it Into Practice" (PIIP). While I was in Germany, my publisher let me know that those sections needed to be more interactive.

No big deal, right? I started working on it. I realized that NLP (neurolinguistic programming) would be helpful. NLP is based on the fact that people learn and process in one of three ways: visual (60%), auditory (20%) and kinesthetic (20%).

So I went down a long path, that turned out to be a rabbit hole. Explaining what NLP is, why it matters, how to determine your own and your partner's NLP style (BTW, I suggest you look up NLP and figure it out). Next, I had

exercises in all three learning styles. I was several pages in. Wow, way too long, and way too many words for a graphic novel!

I had a call with my publisher. "More interactive and less cerebral," he said. I asked a lot of questions to learn more about what he was thinking. I settled in to write again. I scrapped what I'd already written. I made two more attempts, and sent one off to him. This time his feedback was that it was too many choices. I had to simplify it.

I scheduled a Zoom meeting with my publisher and included my husband, who is my first reader. I wanted both of us to listen so we could discuss it at home and be able to determine if I was on the right track. I wrote another draft. "Closer," my publisher said. "More interactive." But I knew I was still pretty far from the solution.

I'm giving you a lot of details, reader, because we all go through so much thinking at times.

I was feeling discouraged. I realized I was trying to re-explain the



concepts that are already clearly explained in the chapters, and amazingly illustrated by my artist.

I had a phone call with my publisher. "I'm struggling here, John. I listening and trying really hard to understand what it is you want. I want this to be very useful and understandable to my readers. Maybe you need to find an educator to write the PIIPs. I'm a therapist, not an educator. I've never written a lesson plan."

He then told me he'd been a math teacher and tutor, and began to explain how to write a lesson plan. After a while, I said, "John, I don't have a neural pathway as an educator. I'm not going to get a neural pathway as an educator before our deadline." He laughed. And he understood. We ended the call, both thinking.

That evening at supper I told my husband and brother-in-law that I was really struggling with this. I took a deep breath and told them, "I feel stupid." Logically I know I'm not stupid, but I sure felt that way. I sat in my chair, and asked myself what I ask clients, to dig deeper. "What's underneath feeling stupid?"

Suddenly I saw myself as a girl, showing my mom poems I'd written. She corrected the spelling. There were no words of encouragement or interest. Spell-check. Ouch.

I thought, "Oh, finally I understand what's going on; why I feel stupid." Now that I knew where I was, emotionally speaking, and I knew what had been triggered, I

could soothe my inner little girl, give her words of affirmation, encouragement and love. (Note: Being able to understand and integrate something won't necessarily come to a person so quickly. I've done a lot of work on myself, and it sure paid off.)

That night I was able to brainstorm with my husband. We'd talk and explore, and then move on to other topics. A few times, I told him I wanted to go back to talking about the PIIP sections. So we did. Lo and behold, the solution came to me later that night. I turned on the light, wrote it down and went to sleep.

I typed up part of the chapter one PIIP, and sent it off to John. I soon heard back from him: "Yeah, this is good. Well done. Very smart."

Would I have gotten to a solution without acknowledging my feelings and digging further into them? Maybe. Would it have taken longer? Likely.

Clients often comment on how slow it is to find, express, and resolve feelings. I always tell them the time they spend on it now will save tons of time later because they won't have to recover from and repair misunderstandings and/or arguments.

Yes, feelings matter. They are driving you with or without your awareness. You have so many more options in life when you're aware of your feelings. ■

*Editor's note: Chandrama Anderson is an author and licensed marriage and family therapist. Her "Couple's Net" blog runs every week on PleasantonWeekly.com.*

## LETTERS

### Biased reporting — again

What a shame the Pleasanton Weekly publisher wrote an insulting and derogatory article about our mayor and City Council majority's decision to stop funding the chamber directed "Leadership Pleasanton" program. Ms. Channell Wilcox's piece is disappointing and lacks integrity because she published an article without presenting all of the facts.

For residents of a city to learn about their own government, both Dublin and Livermore have great programs. However, if you want to learn about Pleasanton's government, you must pay the Chamber of Commerce \$950. Any chamber driven program should focus on local businesses, not local government.

After Pleasanton's elected leaders removed \$10,000 to subsidize the chamber's program, Ms. Channell Wilcox criticized the city for a "paltry" \$6,200 in savings. Wrong! The city's cost is \$6,200 plus another \$24,000 in city employee time. None of these taxpayers' funds are "paltry".

Historically Livermore's city offers their chamber a single day of government leadership time, unlike

Pleasanton's four days of staff time. Also, neither Dublin or Livermore cities fund their chamber program with \$10,000 like Pleasanton does.

The publisher questions if the majority of Pleasanton residents agree with the council decisions. Does she know the majority of City Council members easily won the most votes in their elections? It is clear to me the residents have spoken and we respect and support the decisions of our council majority.

And finally, if Ms. Channell Wilcox wants to increase readership, she should support those that we elected for office, and stop her negative rants and insults.

—Julie Rasnick

### Keep pursuing skate park construction

The amount of children, young adults and parents that support the City Council's decision to keep pursuing the skate park construction is large. When this project first started at a priority meeting (about five years ago, there were over 30 Pleasanton teenagers that showed up with their parents in support of building this skate park.

This skate park has been past due since Pleasanton reached build out

back in 2014. It is in city documentation that the skate park should have been built by then. Here we are, nine years later without a skate park. If you do not skateboard, scooter, BMX, rollerblade, then we ask that you support that community that exists in Pleasanton, Alameda Country and worldwide.

Pleasanton's skate park is one of the most outdated skate park in the Bay Area. It's past due for us to catch up.

I want it to be known that the voices protesting against the skate park are much smaller than those who have been fighting for this skate park to be completed.

—Andrew Lambert

### Indictment of former president

Donald Trump has been indicted by Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg for illegally concealing hush money payments to an adult film actor. The justice system is working — no one is above the law, and that includes a former president.

As Americans, we deserve leaders who act honorably in our interests and govern in our name. A grand jury of everyday Americans across race, background and party indicted

the former MAGA president for bribes and corruption, weighing the evidence and deciding he must stand trial.

Yet the MAGA Republicans who are currently in office and are trying to take away our freedoms supported, schemed and lied for him, and now want to undermine and overturn our entire legal system to keep covering up for him.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy targeted the Manhattan district attorney in a tweet, accusing him of "routinely" freeing "violent criminals to terrorize the public" and warning that the House will hold Bragg and "his unprecedented abuse of power to account". Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is expected to challenge Trump for the 2024 GOP presidential nomination, called the indictment "un-American".

These MAGA Republicans knowingly back this con man because they want to take away everything from Social Security, voting rights and our freedom to decide what happens to our own bodies in order to rule for the wealthiest few. It's long past time for every Republican in office to declare they are with the American people in demanding he and his conspirators stand trial.

—Ward Kanowsky



BY DENNIS MILLER

## Amador Valley baseball's strong start continues

Also: Dons beat Falcons for East County Classic volleyball title

The Amador Valley varsity baseball team headed into spring break on a roll, standing at 7-1 overall this year.

Highlights from the last week started with a 10-3 win over California on March 30.

Oliver de la Torre got the start for Amador on the bump and took control, allowing two hits and one run over four innings, striking out six.

Tyler Kubo and Brady Lederer rounded out the game allowing only two runs, and four hits combined. The Dons racked up 13 hits with Ross Kobayashi and Kyle Barbera each getting three. Barbera drove in half the runs, crushing two doubles and a single.

The Dons were back in action the next day, pulling out a 3-2 win over College Park. Amador took the lead late in the game, then held on for the win.

Matthew Foley pitched the full seven innings, allowing two runs and striking out eight. Kubo and Riley Borges each had two hits. Borges started the rally with a blistered single down third base line to score Foley for Amador's first run.

### Amador boys' volleyball

The Dons ran through a week without dropping a set, winning

two East Bay Athletic League games as well as taking the title of the East County Classic at Deer Valley High School.

The Dons opened their week with a win over De La Salle in a tight 25-15, 27-25, 26-24 win.

Leading the way were Nate Clinton (13 kills, 9 digs, 3 aces), Nick Nayak (8 kills), Colin Bowers (team-high 7 service points, 7 digs, 14 assists) and Bryce Nohava (23 assists).

Amador followed this up with another sweep, this one over Granada, posting a 25-14, 25-15, 31-29 win.

On Saturday, the Dons rolled to the tournament title.

In the championship, Amador beat Foothill 2-0 to capture the crown. Bowers led the way from his setter spot, also leading the team in blocks. Clinton, Tyler Homes and Max Riter provided plenty of offense.

### Foothill boys' volleyball

The Falcons had a busy week, playing and winning three matches during the week, then going 4-1 and finishing second in the East County Classic.

The week started with a 25-20, 25-19, 25-17 win over Monte Vista. Highlights came from Landen

Meonske (15 assists, 7 kills, 7 service points), Zach Seraj (11 service points, 6 kills) and Micah Gawel (6 kills).

The next night brought a non-league win 25-16, 25-19, 25-20 over Piedmont. Tyler Keala (14 kills, 8 digs), Meonske (23 assists, 10 digs) and Kayan Vohra (6 kills, 3 blocks) led the way.

Next was a 25-18, 25-17, 25-21 win over Cal. Jack Caudill (6 kills, 2 blocks), Ian Neuman (7 digs, 3 kills), Noah Mitzenmacher (23 receptions, 9 service points) were top performers.

In the tournament Keala led the way with 42 kills while Meonske had 62 assists and 20 kills, and Caudill finished with 21 kills

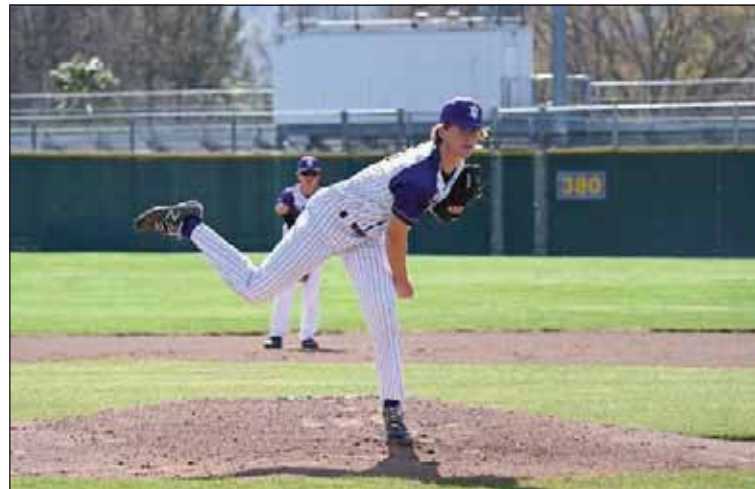
### Foothill boys' lacrosse

The Falcons had a big week, winning three games.

In the first game they pulled out a 9-8 win on the road over Las Lomas. Darrin Lau had five goals, with Wyatt Lam adding two. Tyler Walsh and Jack May had one each. Jake Morgan won 12 faceoffs, and goalie Mikey Paulson had five saves.

The next night Foothill took on Clayton Valley and rallied for the 9-8 win in bad weather.

Trailing 8-3, the Falcons came



TONY WHITWORTH

Matthew Foley has been a consistent performer on the bump for the Dons this season.

flying back for the win.

Lau scored four goals, with AJ Becker scoring three, including the game-winner. Jagger Sakamoto added two big goals. Morgan won 15 faceoffs and Paulson had seven saves. Graham Zander and Josh Taylor turned in big games on defense.

The next game saw the Falcons roll to an 18-2 win over Dublin. Walsh, Lam and Lau scored four goals each. Freshman Mateo Murphy scored his first two varsity goals, and Morgan, May, Becker and Sean Flanagan had one each.

### Amador boys' lacrosse

The Dons dropped both of their games last week, falling to California and De La Salle.

Cal grabbed the 17-7 win, but the Dons turned in some strong

performances. Owen Heck led the offense with five points (3 goals, 2 assists), while also collecting three ground balls and forcing one turnover.

Sebastien Diligent (2 goals) and Will Coultrip (2 goals, 1 assist) also contributed on offense. Grant Thompson and Braden O'Donnell did great on faceoffs.

In the 18-3 loss to De La Salle, Tommy Balestreri was all over the field, scoring a goal, collecting five ground balls and forcing two turnovers. Goalie Alexander Michail made 13 saves while facing 39 shots. ■

*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.*

## Appeals court rules in favor of proposed Howard Terminal stadium

Oakland A's, city restart discussions on project, according to new mayor

BY KEITH BURBANK / BCN

An appeals court panel last week affirmed a lower court's ruling that the environmental review was adequate for the Oakland A's proposed stadium at Howard Terminal on the city's waterfront.

The First District Court of Appeal in San Francisco on March 30 rejected all but one claim by the East Oakland Stadium Alliance about the inadequacy of the project's environmental impact report. The Oakland City Council certified the report in February 2022.

The appeals court ruling means the project can move forward once the city and A's address what the lower court ruled was an inadequate mitigation measure related to wind. The appeals court upheld

the lower court's requirement to revise that measure.

"This is great news for Oakland residents and fans throughout the Bay Area," Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao said in a statement on March 30. "Today's unanimous decision once again confirms that the City not only complied with the law but undertook a thorough and thoughtful environmental analysis of the A's potential ballpark development at Howard Terminal."

Thao said earlier this year that the Oakland A's and the city have started discussing the project again following her election as mayor. The Major League Baseball team has reportedly been exploring Las Vegas as an alternative location for a new stadium amid the lengthy consideration process in Oakland.

Still under consideration is how infrastructure off the project site will be paid for. Community benefits such as the amount of affordable housing is an issue, too.

The proposed waterfront ballpark will seat about 35,000 people and the overall development will include much more.

Three thousand residential units are planned along with 270,000 square feet of retail space and 1.5 million square feet of other commercial space.

Up to 400 hotel rooms may be built in addition to a 3,500-seat performance venue and about 20 acres of parkland.

"We are pleased with the appellate court's decision, which affirms the significant and thorough work completed on our environmentally sound visionary waterfront ballpark project," Oakland A's officials said by email last Friday.

The East Oakland Stadium

Alliance was pleased with the court's ruling regarding wind mitigation, but was otherwise unhappy with the outcome.

"We are disappointed with this ruling's conclusions regarding numerous additional failures by the A's and the City of Oakland," said Mike Jacob, vice president and general counsel with the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, which is part of the alliance.

"The project proponents have consistently ignored concerns raised by environmental justice groups, business groups, labor groups, and local advocacy groups about the impacts of the proposed stadium project," Jacobs said.

The East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy, a nonprofit that promotes economic justice, is concerned primarily about three categories of community benefits. Those are jobs policies, affordable housing and environmental mitigation.

The nonprofit would like the A's to hire Oakland residents for jobs at the park if it is built, said Isaiah Toney, deputy director of campaigns.

Toney said the alliance wants the A's to give formerly incarcerated people a chance to work at the park and to pay a living wage, which the alliance suggests is about \$22 per hour.

The alliance wants the A's to pay for the construction of 450 affordable housing units as part of the development's 3,000 units at Howard Terminal and to pay for additional affordable housing elsewhere, Toney said.

Even though the court approved most of the environmental impact report, Toney's group wants additional environmental mitigation.

That may include requiring new housing to be built to the highest environmental standards. Toney said that is Platinum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. ■

# Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

## Entertainment

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

**JOHN OATES AT THE BANKHEAD** Join for an evening of acoustic music and storytelling with John Oates, one half of the best-selling duo of all time, Hall & Oates, as well as an accomplished solo artist. 8 p.m., April 14. Ticket \$65-\$95. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**SONGS OF THE EAGLES** One of These Nights-Songs of The Eagles returns to The Bankhead, brilliantly re-creating the harmonic sounds of the legendary Eagles. 8 p.m., April 15. Tickets \$38-\$58. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**LAS POSITAS SPRING CHOIR CONCERT** The Las Positas College Music Department announces a concert series which includes the Spring Choir Concert. 7 p.m., April 20. Tickets \$5-\$15. Visit [laspositascollege.edu/music/events.php](http://laspositascollege.edu/music/events.php).

**SUSAN TONKIN AT THE FIREHOUSE** Bay Area stage actress and vocalist Susan Tonkin debuts her cabaret show at the Firehouse Arts Center. Experience jazz and theater standards as Susan recounts her experiences as "That Tall Blond at the Callback." 8 p.m., April 20. Tickets \$20. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**LATE NITE CATECHISM** This uproarious piece of theater that takes audience members back, sometimes nostalgically, sometimes fearfully, to the children they once were. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of students. 8 p.m., April 21. Tickets \$30-\$60. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**RYAN CASSATA AT THE FIREHOUSE** Ryan Cassata is an award-winning singer-songwriter, actor, performer, published writer, LGBTQ+ activist and transgender motivational speaker. 8 p.m., April 21. Tickets \$15. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**JAZZ AT INKLINGS** Featured soulful jazz vocalist Rhonda Benin performs with the Matt Finders Trio. 5:30-7 p.m., April 22. Free reservations by email to [info@pleasantonjazzsociety.com](mailto:info@pleasantonjazzsociety.com)

**PIANIST DANIEL GLOVER** Concert pianist Daniel Glover performs musical selections of Rachmaninoff in celebration of his 150th birthday, as well as waltzes, marches and more by equally well-known composers. 7:30 p.m., April 22. Tickets \$30. Visit [valleyconcertchorale.org](http://valleyconcertchorale.org). First Presbyterian Church, Livermore.

**MOSTLY KOSHER AT THE BANKHEAD** This critically acclaimed Klezmer Rock band brings ravenous klezmer beats and arresting Yiddish refrains in this family-friendly performance. 3 p.m., April 23. \$20-\$65. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**BANKHEAD PRESENTS VILLALOBOS BROTHERS** The Villalobos Brothers have been acclaimed as one of today's leading Contemporary Mexican ensembles where audiences can expect to be swept away by their high-energy performance. 7:30, April 27. Tickets \$20-\$35. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

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

**DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS** Del Valle Fine Arts presents the latest First Prize winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition, Spanish-born Martin Garcia Garcia. He has also won the Audience Prize, Chamber Music Prize and Piano/Duo Prize. 7:30 p.m., April 29. Tickets \$55. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**TRI-VALLEY REPERTORY THEATRE** Song of the Nightingale is a magical, musical romp that reminds us that true beauty and worth is always found within. April 29-30; May 5-7 & 12-14. Tickets \$25-\$42. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

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

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

## PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

### Hi, I'm Boyd!

Do you like going for long walks and then snuggling up on the couch to binge watch your favorite shows? Then I might be the dog for you! I'm a mature 9-year-old Chihuahua who enjoys the simple things in life — a comfy blanket, lots of yummy treats, and a friend or two to keep me company. I don't like to rush into things, but once we get to know each other, we'll be friends for life. Think we're a match made in heaven? Let's make it official! Visit [eastbayspca.org](http://eastbayspca.org).

## Public Notices

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

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Churritos con Xochitl, located at 1855 locusts st Livermore CA 94551, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
ALEJANDRA ARROYO  
1855 locust st  
Livermore CA 94551

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

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

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

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

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) DVB Insurance Services, located at 344 Division St #209, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
DIABLO VALLEY BENEFITS, LLC  
344 Division St #209  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
California

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

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

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

FAVOR  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: #595720

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

1.) FAVOR, located at 1807 SANTA RITA RD STEH-190 PLEASANTON, CA 94566, Alameda county.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
RICARDO WHITESIDE  
2812 Garden Creek Cir  
Pleasanton, CA 94588

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

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

(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

SCRIPT MOLECULAR  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596096

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

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

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
DEKA BIOTECH INC  
4198 Rennellwood Way  
Pleasanton. CA 94566  
California

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

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

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

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

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

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

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
HENRY BATTEATE  
10617 Altamont Pass Rd.

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

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

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

Livermore, CA 94551  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 03/01/2023

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

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

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

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

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

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
HAXIS LABS INCORPORATED  
4975 Middleton Pl  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
Delaware

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

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

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

BERNAL DENTAL GROUP  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 596400

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

1.) Bernal Dental Group, located at 4466 Black ave, Suite K, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
CHAITRA K BHAT DDS INC  
4466 Black Ave, Suite K  
Pleasanton, CA 94566  
california

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/27/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 16 2023.

(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

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

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

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

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
MODERN MAIL SERVICE INC  
750 4th St  
Oakland, CA 94607  
California

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

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

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

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 23CV029834

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Linda Marie Smith filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
LINDA MARIE SMITH to LINDA SMITH D'AMBROSIO

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court

may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/23/2023, 9:30 a.m., Dept. 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:  
PLEASANTON WEEKLY  
Date: 03/09/2023  
none listed  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW Apr 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
HOWARD LIM  
Case No.: RP23139585

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of HOWARD LIM.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: LINDA SUE LIM HOSCHLER in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: LINDA SUE LIM HOSCHLER AND MEILEE LIM be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 26 2023 at 9:45 AM in 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 MARTIN LUTHER KING WAY, BERKELEY, CA 94704.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:  
POLLY WELSH MCGILVRAY  
1115 ALHAMBRA BLVD.  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-5214  
916-453-1418  
(PLW Apr 7, 14 and 21, 2023)

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

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

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

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

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# Employment

## Chief Technology Officer

Chief Technology Officer sought by Subskribe, Inc., San Ramon, CA. Salary \$248,768/yr. Deg'd applicants exp'd wrkg w/ dsngn, archtct & implmnt B2B entrprs sbscrptn mgmt sftwr, etc. send resume to jobs@subskribe.com

## Sr. Engineer, Software

ICE Mortgage Technology, Inc. seeks Sr. Engineer, Software in Pleasanton, CA to analyze needs & requirements of existing & proposed Encompass system. Telecommuting permitted. \$132,870 - \$183,310 per year. Apply <https://www.jobpostingtoday.com/> Ref # 54269.

## Sftwr Dvlpr

Sftwr Dvlprs (San Ramon, CA) Anlze, dsngn, prog, dvlp test & maintains s/w apps sys codng doc. Rqrs MS/BS or frgn eqv in Comp Sci/App/Engg, Elec Engg, Info Tech, Any Sci/Engg or Rltd Fld and 0-5 yrs exp in Rltd Fld. Trvl rqd. Salary: \$107640/Yr (BS), \$132870/Yr (MS), \$183310/Yr (BS+5Yrs exp). Mail Resume to: Enterprise Mobility Inc., 9260 Alcosta Blvd, Ste C26, San Ramon, CA 94583. Ref: SD2023



Sign up today at [PleasantonWeekly.com/express](https://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/express)

## TECHNOLOGY

BlackLine Systems, Inc. is accepting resumes for the position of Senior Software Engineer in Pleasanton, CA (Ref. #NAST). Design, develop, test, optimize, scale, maintain and improve highly scalable and secure distributed backend services while adhering to requirements, coding and quality standards. Telecommuting permitted. Annual Salary: \$183,310 - 213,310. Mail resume to BlackLine Systems, Inc., HR Department, Tamara Saltzman, 21300 Victory Blvd., 12th Floor, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. Resume must include Ref. #NAST, full name, email address & mailing address. No phone calls. Must be legally authorized to work in U.S. without sponsorship. EOE.

## Marketing Data Analyst

Marketing Data Analyst w/Boster Biological Technology (Pleasanton, CA). Work under supv of marketing manager to assist in ops research anlys, assessments, & capability dev. Formulate & apply mathematical modeling to assist in examining market statistics & devg & interpreting findings using various tools (Python, SQL, R, Git, GitHub, Excel) to help understand impact of company's marketing strategies. Req Bach (U.S. or FDE) in Math, Comp Sci or closely rel field + 6 months exp in job offrd or closely rel occupation involving analytics & quantitative assessments to understand marketing trends & strategies in global markets. Stated exp to incl using Python, SQL, R, Git, GitHub, Excel to analyze data. Send res to Office Manager: support@bosterbio.com.

## DATA TEST ENGINEER

Revanche Therapeutics, Inc. (Pleasanton, CA) to be rspnsble for dsngn, test & dvlp autmtion to meet users' needs; rcmnd sftwre upgrdes for cstmers' exstng prgrms; dsngn autmtion frmewrk & plan how the pieces will wrk tghtr to test the users' sftwre & its data intgrty. Bachelor's or foreign equiv. in Cmptr Scnce, Elctrcl Engnrng, Elctrcn Engnrng, or rel. field w/5 yrs of prgrssvly rspnsble post-bacc work exp in the pos. off. or rel. Must know (thru acad training or work exp) SQL dvlpmnt & Data Engnrng testing; ETL testing & data vldtion of RDS & Data Warehouse; dvlpng ETL test scripts based on techncl specs & data dsngn docs & sourcing to target mppngs; & Test Data & Test Envrnmnt Mgmt cncpts & tools. \$150,000 to \$160,000 per year. Send resumes to [humanresources@revance.com](mailto:humanresources@revance.com)

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

If you wish to learn more about the advertising options, please call 650.223.6597 or email [digitalads@pawebly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawebly.com).

## CALENDAR

## CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

## Exhibits

**FIREHOUSE LOBBY EXHIBITION** After the Storm features nine of artist Angelica Turner's works, including the lush botanical motifs for which she is known. Now through April 8.

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

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

## Easter

**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](http://bunnyphoto.splashthat.com).

**EASTER BUNNY AT BISHOP RANCH** The Easter Bunny will be visiting City Center Bishop Ranch on April 8 from 11a.m.-3 p.m., April 8. Dress up to capture a selfie with the Easter Bunny. Alexander Square.

**MUSEUM ON MAIN EASTER EGG HUNT** Children 10 years and younger are invited to the Museum on Main scavenger hunt where they will receive a goody bag and clues leading to treats from participating businesses. This is a free event with limited supplies. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. April 8. RSVP to [eventbrite.com/e/bunny-hop-egg-hunt-tickets-598608172157](http://eventbrite.com/e/bunny-hop-egg-hunt-tickets-598608172157).

**EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA** Join for an Easter Egg-stravaganza at Asbury United Methodist Church for an egg hunt, brunch, yard games and crafts. Free. 11 a.m., April 9. Visit [facebook.com/AsburyUMC](http://facebook.com/AsburyUMC).

**THE AMAZING EASTER RACE** Join at GraceWay Church to celebrate Easter with a free event that includes a race through different locations in the church to explore the story of Easter. There will be games, challenges, crafts and Easter eggs. Lunch will be served. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., April 9. RSVP to [gracewaylife.org](http://gracewaylife.org).

**EASTER AT DEL VALLE** Drop in at the Visitor Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Apr. 9. Visit [ebparks.org/calendar](http://ebparks.org/calendar).

## Talks

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** Linda Harms Okazaki, past president of the California Genealogical Society, presents "Organize your Genealogy" where she will share strategies to start research. 7-8:30 p.m., April 10. Visit [l-ags.org](http://l-ags.org).

**INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT** "How does your religion adapt itself to reflect changing times?" is the topic. 5-6 p.m., April 12. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,

1501 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore. Visit [Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com](mailto:Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com).

**SIERRA CLUB TRI-VALLEY** The next virtual Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group Meeting is 7 p.m., April 12. Visit [sierraclub.org/sfbay/events](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/events).

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

**LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB** Lita Gates spent 40 years working in local nurseries and achieving certified nursery pro status. She'll present "Pruning Flowering Plants and Bushes". 7 p.m., April 13. Alisal School 1454 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. For more information at [jstarkhome@comcast.net](mailto:jstarkhome@comcast.net).

**TRI-VALLEY WRITERS** Connie Post, first Poet Laureate of Livermore presents Finding Your Creativity in the Between Places at the Tri-Valley Writers April meeting. She will explain how to find creativity by going beyond descriptions to find hidden meaning in unexpected places. 2 p.m., April 15. Las Positas College. Visit [trivalleywriters.org](http://trivalleywriters.org). Register by April 13.

**MENTAL HEALTH LECTURE SERIES** Dr. Jami F. Young presents, "Early Identification and Prevention of Youth Depression", sponsored by the Alan Hu Foundation. 5-6 p.m., April 19. Register by April 18. Visit [alanhufoundation.org](http://alanhufoundation.org).

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

## Farmers' Markets

**PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET** The Pleasanton Farmers' Market is Saturday year round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. W. Angela St. Visit [pcfma.org/pleasanton](http://pcfma.org/pleasanton).

## Exhibitions and Expos

**ROBOGAMES AT THE FAIRGROUNDS** RoboGames is the olympics of robots where the best minds from around the world compete in over 50 different events. Some robots are autonomous and some are remote controlled. April 6-9. Tickets \$45, Military free. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**ALAMEDA SPRING HOME SHOW** Meet experts face to face for home ideas. Everything from kitchens and baths, windows and doors, heating and air, sunrooms and floors, landscaping displays and more. April 14-16. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**TRI-VALLEY INNOVATION FAIR** Over 80 exhibitors showcase the region's rich and diverse accomplishments and learning opportunities with interactive and hands-on activities featured indoors and outdoors. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., April 15. Admission free. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**PLUMBING HEATING COOLING INDUSTRY EXPO** The 43rd Annual Plumbing Heating Cooling Industry Expo is 4-8 p.m., April 18. Free admission. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Seniors

**AARP FREE TAX PREPARATION** In-person and virtual tax assistance free of charge, Mondays and Fridays through April 17, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. For available appointments call the Pleasanton Senior Center front desk at 925-931-5365.

**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.

**PLEASANTON RIDES** This door-to-door shared-ride transportation service is for Pleasanton Seniors. For reservations and information call 925-398-1045.

## Student Art Competitions

**YOUTH ART SHOW AND COMPETITION** This Pleasanton Art League (PAL) competition is for Middle and High School students. Registration deadline April 15 and the first 150 submissions will be accepted and displayed at Stoneridge Shopping Center on April 29-30. For more information visit [pal-art.com/exhibits-events/call-artists](http://pal-art.com/exhibits-events/call-artists).

**TRI-VALLEY HAVEN STUDENT ART CONTEST** Tri-Valley Haven is hosting an art contest for grades 6 through 12 focused on the theme of Safe Homes, Safe Families with the first place winner receiving a \$100 Amazon gift card & commemorative t-shirt. Submissions Now through April 27. For questions, email [development@trivalleyhaven.org](mailto:development@trivalleyhaven.org).

## Government

**PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION** The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., April 12. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

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

**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., April 10. Visit [cityoflivermore.net](http://cityoflivermore.net).

## Danville commission approves four-lot subdivision

Amendments aim to preserve town-protected trees from removal

By JEANITA LYMAN

The Danville Planning Commission endorsed a resolution at its most recent regular meeting that will allow plans for a subdivision on a 2.19-acre property in the northern part of town where one single-family home currently sits, with amendments to an associated tree removal request that would require minimizing the number of mature trees removed to make way for the project.

Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the subdivision request and to amend the tree removal request for the proposed project at 824 Danville Blvd. on March 28.

While they were generally supportive of the subdivision proposal and plans to redevelop the property, discussions ahead of that night's vote centered around concerns about the initial request to remove 38 town-protected trees, and ways to reduce that number to maintain as many existing trees as possible on the property.

"The tree removal permit/request is to be further coordinated with final development plans and associated setbacks so that trees that are in those setback areas are further evaluated to potentially maintain as many existing trees as possible," Commissioner Lou Paladino said while making an amended motion at the end of discussions on the project.

Jason Bond, the applicant for the project and owner and current resident of the property, was also supportive of taking measures to preserve the maximum number of mature trees possible on the property, with the prospect of removing any being difficult for him to come to terms with.

"Just to give you a little context of the whole situation ... my dad bought this place in the '50s; my grandmother lived there for 30-something years," Bond said. "When she passed, I moved

in. I've been there ever since around 2000 or so. Regarding the trees I have to say that it's been very difficult for me to think about removing these trees. I've been very attached to the property my whole life, so it's been a process."

Despite seeking ways to accommodate as many trees as possible in the ongoing design plans for the four single-family homes proposed for the subdivided property, Bond said he'd had to accept that some would have to come down. However, he has been actively seeking ways to minimize that number.

"Clearly with the lot layouts, the creek setbacks and the road setback, we've had to be creative with how we've designed this thing to try to meet the requirements for square footage. So, unfortunately a lot of the trees in the interior are just not savable in that sense," Bond said.

"Just last week I sent forth a list of trees particularly on the periphery that seem like they can be preserved," Bond continued. "I'm attached to this property. I have a vested interest. I'm planning on living there and building a house for myself. So I certainly share the desire to make this a beautiful, livable place for myself and the neighborhood."

Despite his attachment to the trees, Bond noted that some were in poor health and already present hazards to his existing residence on the property and to neighboring residences.

"A lot of these trees are dangerous. There's been some that have fallen the last few years," Bond said. "One of them fell right behind the house and grazed (it). Literally took paint off the side of the house and pulled the fireplace back a few feet. So a lot of them are in pretty poor condition and dangerous not only for my house but the neighbors' too. There's one tree that's big enough to take down the neighbor's house across the creek"

One neighboring resident spoke on behalf of herself and her husband during the public comment session at the meeting, also expressing support for the project but with concerns about the tree removal request.

"We have a long relationship with the family, the Bond family, and my husband has talked to Jason many times," Celeste Gurule said. "We're very in favor of the project overall. We're excited to have the property be upgraded. We had some concerns about fire hazard with the current structures and all of that, and I think it will just be a great development for the neighborhood. But we are concerned about the trees."

Gurule noted that the mature trees were part of the character of the town, and that they weren't easily replaced.

"It's very much part of the beauty of Danville and we would not like to lose the beauty, and I think the new homeowners would appreciate some of those already established trees since they take a very long time to get to that level," Gurule said.

With her family's property adjacent to Bond's property, Gurule said that she and her husband were especially concerned about losing the trees near their property line, despite being aware of the threats to their property posed by the potential falling of large trees in poor health.

"We're very concerned mostly about the perimeter," Gurule said. "We understand there's the roadway where houses are going to go but we hope that we can keep and maintain the beauty around the property but also do understand the issue of trees that are in poor condition because those could fall on our house as well."

In particular, she said she was hoping to protect a large redwood tree straddling her property and Bond's, which she and her family

had been taking care of.

"We built a fence around it in conjunction so that we could make sure we really take care of that tree," Gurule said. "It's a very large redwood, it's protected."

Commissioners concluded that the redwood tree and fence specifically would have to be a matter that Gurule and Bond came to agreement over privately. However, they largely echoed her points otherwise, emphasizing the desire to maintain as many trees as possible on the property.

"I like the idea of only clearing the lots and the driveway and then seeing where we come out because I'd like to save as many trees as possible," Commissioner Robert Combs said. "And, actually, for the owner or the seller of those homes once they get built, you're going to see a lot of value from saving as many trees as possible, so it is a huge thing to have mature trees on a lot, especially when it is new construction."

Paladino called for further design, architectural and design plans that would seek to accommodate as many trees as possible, rather than a vote to approve the tree removal permit as it stood before the commission that night.

"I believe that the tree removal request needs to be further coordinated with the final development plans, with the input of the arborist, to allow as many trees as possible to be maintained," Paladino said before making the amended motion.

The subdivision request approved that evening, despite amendments to the tree removal permit, means that Bond and developers will continue working toward plans to split the property into four single-family lots of approximately one-half-acre each, and to demolish the existing residence that Bond inherited from his grandmother. ■

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Feb. 27 to March 3 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

- 114 Birch Creek Terrace** Arden Living Trust to A. & A. Singhal for \$1,240,000
- 4368 Chapman Way** H & R Family Trust to T. & S. Nagpure for \$1,057,000
- 1822 Harms Drive** C. Cheng to Y. & Y. Tian for \$1,327,000
- 309 Lone Oak Drive** K. Schoenfeld to S. Ranganathapura for \$1,328,000
- 5073 Lynbrook Court** T. Kleffman to D. & J. Ng for \$1,920,000
- 1581 Maple Leaf Drive** Place Living Trust to L. & A. Reza for \$2,100,000
- 2326 Meadowlark Drive** I. & C. Beaumont to P. & M. Sannat for \$1,842,000
- 4074 Moselle Court** Anderson Family Trust to P. & H. Vadada for \$1,425,000
- 3749 Platt Court** S. Winn to J. & T. Khosla for \$1,310,000
- 3720 Raboli Street** K. & B. Keighley to Exchange Accommodation LLC for \$3,600,000
- 3405 Stacey Way** Shehwar Family Trust to K. Shankar for \$1,540,000
- 990 Sycamore Road** Bringhurst LLC to 990Sycamoredevco LLC for \$2,450,000
- 3063 Tonopah Circle** E. Huang to P. & U. Pisipati for \$712,000

### Livermore

- 2482 7th Street** K. Samsondeen to K. Martin for \$918,000

- 1092 Andalucia Street** Opendoor Property Trust I to N. & A. Kafay for \$910,000
- 361 Basswood Common #5** C. Survivors to A. & V. Manalo for \$800,000
- 4153 Bellmawr Drive** A. & S. Asghari to C. & C. Miller for \$1,524,000
- 2830 College Avenue** G. & A. Blenis to Martin Family Trust for \$868,000
- 787 Debra Street** A. & K. Farmer to M. & E. Vorst for \$870,000
- 735 Dogwood Drive** J. & S. Grundy to D. & C. Aure for \$850,000
- 143 Ganesha Common** T. Schoenthal to Zheng Family Trust for \$825,000
- 729 Hanover Street** M. & R. Foust to A. & V. Ramakrishnan for \$990,000
- 1455 Hudson Way** A. Wiguna to Boice Living Trust for \$1,350,000
- 757 North L Street** Y. & K. Brandenburg to R. & S. Kumar for \$775,000
- 9900 Mines Road** Meyer Family Trust to K. & S. Williams for \$1,400,000
- 1528 Spring Valley Common** J. Keene to H. Naimyar for \$425,000
- 76 Tourmaline Avenue** C. & T. Jesberg to A. & N. Katpally for \$2,050,000

### Dublin

- 7752 Barn Hollow Court** Leonard Family Trust to C. & M. Date for \$1,310,000
- 5557 Barrel Court** A. Bould to F. & C. Fang for \$1,100,000
- 4333 Belcarra Court** A. & H. Bedi to C. & Q. Chen for \$1,870,000

- 4288 Central Parkway** Alapati Trust to Tirumalasetty-Sambana Trust for \$1,830,000
- 5027 Colebrook Court** N. Salmon to A. & S. Gavali for \$2,000,000
- 5865 Dublin Boulevard** Opendoor Property Trust I to C. & J. Bonilla for \$960,000
- 11610 Estrella Court** Opendoor Property Trust I to G. Te for \$1,457,000
- 7965 Gunshot Court** Dna Home Investments LLC to K. & M. Kapadia for \$1,085,000
- 6116 Hillbrook Place** Chan Trust to X. & J. Lu for \$1,100,000
- 5768 Huntley Avenue** Opendoor Property Trust I to Du Family Trust for \$1,301,000
- 7376 Limerick Avenue** C. Chan to C. & G. Webb for \$890,000
- 3240 Maguire Way #318** Chua Living Trust to S. Familzoughi for \$715,000
- 4178 Meadow Vista Road** L. Xiang to J. & A. Novion for \$1,055,000
- 4730 Persimmon Drive** Asbagh Trust to A. & C. Polapragada for \$2,300,000
- 7971 Regional Common** D. & D. Ramos to J. & R. Nambisan for \$1,035,000
- 11507 Santo Court** L. & M. Brown to S. & H. Firouzkouhi for \$1,405,000
- 5798 Shadow Hill Drive** J. Garza to R. & R. Murillo for \$1,475,000
- 5672 Sterling Street** D. King to P. & B. Su for \$1,075,000
- 7298 Tamarack Drive** C. & D. Milz to N. & M. Agrawal for \$1,275,000

### San Ramon

- 1405 Bayberry View Lane** Dhanoa Family Trust to V. & V. Koganti for \$1,850,000
- 353 Bellflower Drive** Y. Liu to M. & S. Pillai for \$1,138,000
- 3061 Blackberry Avenue** N. Jung to T. & H. Yu for \$1,100,000
- 202 Compton Circle #D** J. & A. Ursino to A. Gallup for \$618,000
- 4848 Cornflower Street** P. & S. Obinyan to N. & N. Lnu for \$1,810,000
- 104 Corrinne Court** Yray Family Trust to A. & P. Ahire for \$1,170,000
- 1 Dogwood Court** L. & S. Heaton to E. & J. Yu for \$860,000
- 2140 Goldenrod Lane** Walnum Living Trust to Singh Family Trust for \$1,777,000
- 704 Lakemont Place #5** S. Zhu to Q. Chen for \$1,000,000
- 65 Longwood Court** A. Parhiscar to S. & A. Agrawal for \$2,060,000
- 455 Pine Ridge Drive** M. Godfrey to T. Damir for \$540,000
- 406 Pinenut Court** Virdee Family Trust to C. & I. Mahajan for \$1,550,000
- 538 Treyburn Circle** A. Youn to B. & Y. Guo for \$1,410,000
- 420 Ustilago Court** Oloughlin Family Trust to Y. & D. Gandhi for \$1,950,000
- 100 Wycliffe Court** M. & J. Azmitia to A. Gonzalez for \$1,250,000

Source: California REsource

**18** OFFICES THROUGHOUT  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Aptos, Brentwood, Burlingame,  
Danville, Grass Valley, East Cliff,  
Lake Tahoe, Los Altos, Los Gatos,  
Menlo Park, Palo Alto, Pebble  
Beach, Pleasanton, San Carlos,  
San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz,  
Walnut Creek, Willow Glen

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## WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

### OAK HILL, PLEASANTON



### 7774 OAK CREEK COURT, PLEASANTON

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

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

**SOLD PRICE \$1,875,000 | MULTIPLE OFFERS RECEIVED**

### SOUTH LIVERMORE



### 1141 RIESLING CIRCLE, LIVERMORE

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

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

**SOLD PRICE \$1,509,000**

### DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON



### 1027 ROSE AVENUE, PLEASANTON / PARCEL

24,678 SQ. FT. LOT

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

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

**SOLD PRICE \$1,500,000**

**MULTIPLE OFFERS RECEIVED**

# VENEMA HOMES

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## The Spring Selling Season Is Here!

Time To Hunt For Your New Home.    



**FOR SALE**  
Listed at \$3,449,000

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



**FOR SALE**  
Listed at \$4,449,999

**12400 Morgan Territory Road, Livermore**  
5 Bedrooms | 5.5 Bathrooms | 5,992 Square Feet



**COMING SOON**  
Listed at \$1,449,000

**6343 Inglewood Drive, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,608 Square Feet



**PENDING**  
Listed at \$4,795,000

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



**PENDING**  
Listed at \$2,395,000

**10767 Inspiration Way, Dublin**  
5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 3,317 Square Feet



**PENDING**  
\$100k Over List Price

**5847 San Juan Way, Pleasanton**  
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,414 Square Feet



**SOLD**  
Sold for \$2,200,000

**5920 Old School Road, Danville**



**SOLD**  
166k Over List Price  
Sold for \$1,665,000

**5804 San Carlos Way, Pleasanton**



**SOLD**  
Representing Buyer

**433 Sycamore Hill, Danville**



**SOLD**  
Representing Buyer

**309 Lone Oak Drive, Pleasanton**



### Hunt for the hidden objects!

-  7 Easter Bunnies
-  6 Spring Flowers
-  9 Easter eggs
-  2 Baby Chicks
-  1 Carrot
-  5 Butterflies

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