

# Pleasanton Weekly

Juneteenth Festival

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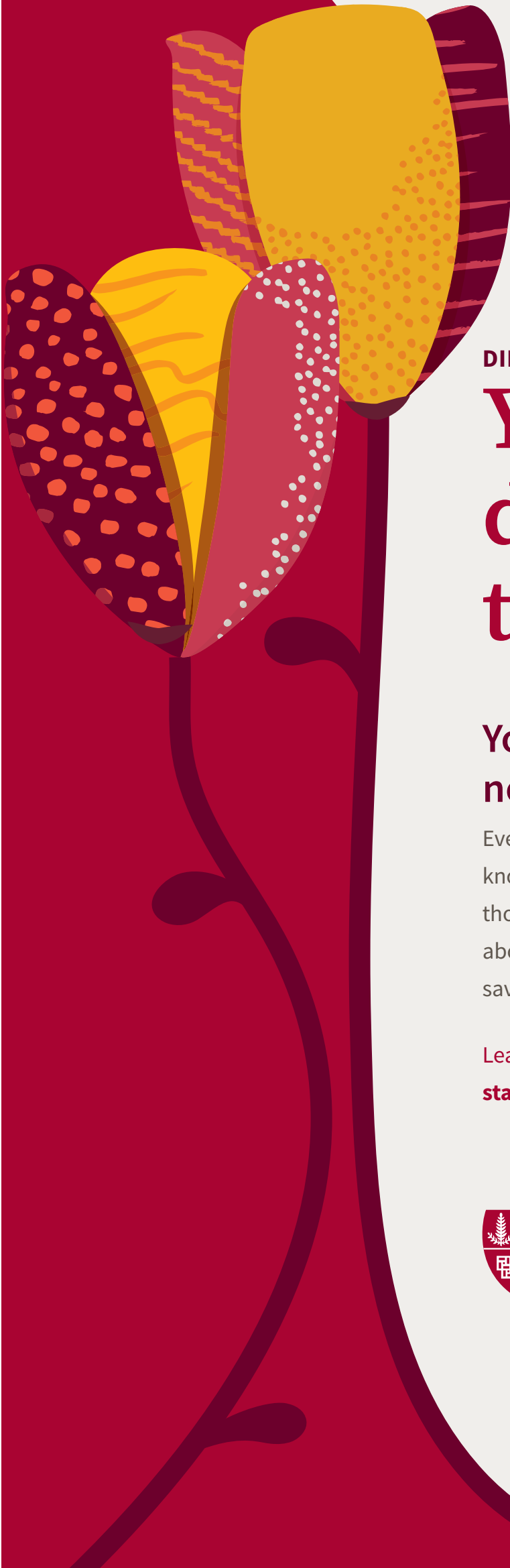
## GET READY FOR THE COUNTY FAIR

BIG OPENING WEEKEND KICKS OFF 20 DAYS OF SUMMER FUN IN PLEASANTON

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# AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

## All about priorities ...

‘City budgets are difficult to understand,’ a councilmember wrote in response to an email asking the budget be taken off the June 6 consent calendar.

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and councilmembers Valerie Arkin, Jeff Nibert and Julie Testa are either finding the budget difficult to understand or knowingly obfuscating in order to justify spending \$10.6 million on discretionary amenities.

That \$10.6 million should be put toward treatment of water contaminated with PFAS and increasing compensation for police officers. But the council majority would have us believe it can't be used, which is not correct. And, in carefully worded statements, they are attempting to gaslight those who do understand while completely confusing others.

To ensure I share correct information, I checked my understanding with individuals who have extensive experience with municipal budgeting. I have a few thoughts on assertions that have been made.

On June 6, Pleasanton City Manager Gerry Beaudin said, “Capital projects are one-time money and, while there are operational costs associated with a capital investment, they're not the same as the salary and benefits. Investment in our water system doesn't compete with our capital projects.” This is technically correct; the Capital Fund is specifically for one-time projects and the money for water comes from a different fund.

What he didn't say is that a majority of the money funding the skate park and Century House — roughly \$10 million — was transferred and/or originated from the General Fund. Money from the General Fund covers payroll and other operating expenses and can be transferred or loaned to other funds because it's unrestricted dollars.

Beaudin is in an unenviable position. As city manager, he reports to the city council, who set the priorities, and it's his job to execute the plan. Direct reports who value their jobs would probably not contradict or correct their supervisor — especially in public.

One councilmember, in a finessed email response, said, “Regarding moving funds from parks to policing, within the city budget are ‘Enterprise Funds,’ which are separate funds that should not be commingled (sic) or moved.”

This is correct — but, again,

technically. The city's separate enterprise funds include water, sewer, storm drain, golf and cemetery. Revenue collected should support the fund. For example, water rates should cover the annual operating expenses of the city's water utility, including infrastructure projects, which would be paid for out of this fund.

Arkin said “A \$5 million, \$6 million project can't begin to address (a water treatment plant).”

Another email response read: “Eliminating any of the capital projects we have already approved will not have a significant impact on moving forward with our plan to address the water infrastructure due to the vast difference in amount of funding needed.”

Both statements are incorrect. Spending on new amenities, and the subsequent maintenance costs, reduces the money that could be used for water infrastructure.

Beaudin said unspent unrestricted Capital Fund money can be transferred back to the General Fund. This money can be transferred or loaned to the Water Enterprise Fund to go toward the cost of a PFAS treatment facility.

Back to the \$5 million or \$6 million mentioned by Arkin, that money could be used as a down payment to reduce the amount borrowed and obtain more favorable rates on any remaining amount financed — like a home mortgage.

“It's unfortunate that so many of our community members feel we aren't working in their best interest,” Testa said.

These community members understand municipal budgeting and know they are being misled.

What would be in the best interest of community members is if work is paused on the skatepark and interior improvements of Century House until there is a plan to remove toxins from the water and an agreement with our police officers is solidified.

Former councilmember Arne Olson said during public comment, “It's all a matter of priorities. The four of you have decided to balance this budget by taking General Fund money that could be allocated to the Water Fund and, if it were, that would reduce the amount of money you're going to have to borrow.”

Olson concluded, “I'm not sure voters are going to forget about this.”

Higher water rates and glistening new concrete at the skatepark will be good reminders. ■

## About the Cover

The Alameda County Fair, an annual summertime tradition in Pleasanton, opens today and runs through July 9. Past fair photos in cover collage are courtesy Alameda County Fair or Weekly file photos.

Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXIV, Number 21

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## What are your plans for Father's Day this year?



**Tom Kanarek**  
*Retired*

I'm pretty sure that the plan is for all of our local kids and grandkids to come on over to our house in order to spend a great time in our backyard. I'll be grilling burgers and dogs, my beautiful wife will be preparing all of the side dishes, and we'll probably receive a phone call or two from the kids who live far away.



**Deanna Haley and Arissa Piños**  
**(with Stevie the Rescue Dog)**  
*Community services officer / Project manager*

We each plan to call our dads, who live out of town. We'll tell them how much we love them and how much we appreciate their support, affection and attention, as well as all of the sacrifices they've made for us over our lifetimes. We are so blessed.



**Felicia Young**  
*Tasting room associate*

My employer is having a major outdoor barbecue and cigar-smoking event for Father's Day, so I'll be working. My goal for the day is to make all of the very well-deserving dads feel special and appreciated. I'm really looking forward to it!



**Frances Lettieri**  
*Lawyer*

I always defer to my fabulous husband on Father's Day. He is a terrific dad and deserves to be celebrated. At his request, we are planning to spend the weekend near the ocean, hopefully on the beach. With any luck, the weather will cooperate and we'll all enjoy a perfect family day together.



**Ian Gecox**  
*Tasting room associate*

Well, along with many others, I'll be working on Father's Day. My plan is to spark joy at work, one glass at a time.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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

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## DIGEST

### Parks free Sunday

The East Bay Regional Park District is holding a Free Park Day on Sunday (June 18) in honor of Juneteenth, the federal holiday that recognizes when the final Black American slaves were freed in Texas on June 19, 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued.

“The district is committed to enhancing diversity, equity and inclusion, and making our parks and agency more welcoming and reflective of the communities we serve,” EBRPD officials said about Free Park Day, which is held a day before the holiday to maximize potential participation on a weekend.

The fee waiver applies to park entrance, parking, dogs, horses, boat launching and fishing, but it does not include swimming, camping, reservable picnic facilities, concessions, state fees for fishing licenses or watercraft inspections.

Learn more, including about Juneteenth programming, at [www.ebparks.org/Juneteenth](http://www.ebparks.org/Juneteenth).

### Righetti property plans

Dublin city officials have scheduled two community meetings for next week to share information about the proposed development of the Righetti property on Collier Canyon Road in the Eastern Dublin Specific Plan area.

The project aims to subdivide the 49.6-acre property into four parcels to accommodate 96 residential units in medium-density zoning, a 21.37-acre industrial park and approximately 321,125 square feet of campus office/light industrial uses, according to city officials.

The public meetings, both being hosted via Zoom, are set for 7 p.m. next Wednesday (June 21) and 6 p.m. Thursday (June 22). For more information, go to [dublin.ca.gov](http://dublin.ca.gov)

### ‘Meet the Innovators’

The East Bay Economic Development Alliance is hosting the next installment of its “Meet the Innovators” speaker series next Tuesday (June 20) from 8-10 a.m. at Diablo Valley College’s San Ramon Campus.

The event, which includes networking and a panel discussion, will offer “the unique opportunity to hear from business leaders and East Bay Innovation Awards alumni who will share valuable insights on cutting-edge technologies and engineering and design innovations that are shaping the built environment,” organizers said.

The panel, to be moderated by Martinez Refining Company community relations manager Ann Notarangelo, is set to include Tim Haile (executive director, Contra Costa Transportation Authority), Brian Turner (CEO, Buildings IOT), Jake Winters (head of impact, Monarch Tractor) and Alysson Do (vice president, Neural Propulsion Systems, Inc.).

Visit [eastbayeda.org](http://eastbayeda.org) for ticket information. ■

## Pleasanton council approves budget, capital projects for upcoming years

Public debate again pits amenities like skate park, Century House against water infrastructure

By Christian Trujano

The Pleasanton City Council adopted its two-year operating budget and four-year capital improvement program during last week’s council meeting following months of budget workshops and deliberations.

Based on a recently completed 10-year infrastructure plan, as well as input received from the City Council, the budget includes other city priorities such as the adoption of a new citywide strategic plan, implementation of the city’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program and continued

technology improvements to modernize operations.

It also includes the implementation of programs to promote energy conservation and environmental sustainability throughout the community, continued support of programs that provide services to community members and a complete water alternatives study.

Funding for the next two years includes \$26.7 million for various transportation and streets projects; \$5.5 million for parks projects; \$3.8 million for facilities projects; \$7.8 million to maintain and improve infrastructure for

the water, sewer, and storm drain utilities; and \$2.6 million for other projects, including updating of city infrastructure for fleet electrification and development of an Asset Management Plan.

According to city staff, the total expenditures in the two-year operating budget are \$234.4 million for 2023-24 and \$235.7 million for 2024-25. As for the CIP, the timeframe over the next four years for capital expenditures total \$78.7 million for 43 capital projects, of which \$32.2 million for 2023-24 and \$14.2 million for 2024-25 is allocated.

“Notwithstanding the escalating costs and a slow return to some revenue post-COVID — things like hotel tax haven’t quite bounced back — the city does have a balanced budget for funding for operations including those employee contracts, repair and replacement efforts (and) capital projects as well as special funds to fund our enterprises,” City Manager Gerry Beaudin said during the June 6 meeting.

The 4-1 vote to approve the budget, with Vice Mayor Jack Balch

See **BUDGET** on Page 9

## District reinstates IB program at Granada

Streamlined version of curriculum starting in fall term

By Cierra Bailey

After Granada High School families and community members rallied together to save the International Baccalaureate Diploma program, the school district will reinstate a streamlined version of it for the 2023-24 school year and beyond at a reduced cost.

Just days before the 2022-23 school year came to a close, Granada principal Clark Conover sent an email to the campus community announcing that the decision to terminate the program has been reversed and that the courses with high student interest — such as History of the Americas and Language and Literature — will continue to be offered.

“I’m really ecstatic about it,” Granada IB student Sarah Suresh said regarding the program’s reinstatement. She said when she first heard of the plans to end the program, she and her peers were devastated and felt that decisions about their education were being made on their behalf without their input.

“I’m just very thankful that finally — after tons of emails and people going to the school board meeting and protesting — that somehow we were able to put enough pressure for them to listen to us,” Suresh said.

The initial plan to end the program was due to budget concerns.

See **IB PROGRAM** on Page 11



COURTESY AFSANEH LAIDLAW

Pleasanton resident Azadeh Aryana holds her honorary member of the Special Forces Regiment plaque while posing with her two sons and their families in front of the JFK Auditorium in Fort Liberty, N.C. (formerly Fort Bragg) on April 20.

## Army recognizes Pleasanton woman for 20 years of supporting troops

Care package events through PMF gave Aryana an opportunity to help soldiers overseas

By Christian Trujano

Pleasanton resident Azadeh Aryana still remembers when one of her two sons decided to join the U.S. Army in 2003.

“The first deployment to Afghanistan ... I was scared,” Aryana told the Weekly. “I come from that side of the world. I didn’t want my son to be going there.”

Aryana, who immigrated to America from Iran in 1978, said that when her son joined, she

almost immediately started receiving emails for Pleasanton Military Families (PMF), a support group for families of service members, which had just started back up after being inactive for some time.

“I was getting emails, but I didn’t know who they were and my son said, ‘Well, Mom ... just go and see what’s going on,’” she said. “I went to a meeting with them and they were so comforting to me. It was just amazing.”

Now, 20 years later, she is still

with the group serving as the shipping and handling coordinator for the organization’s pack-out where volunteers assemble care packages (with food, toiletries, games and more) to mail to U.S. troops overseas.

And because of her work in sending tens of thousands of servicewomen and servicemen these care packages with custom letters over the past two decades, Aryana was also recently

See **PMF AWARD** on Page 11

# Livermore mayor delivers State of the City address

Marchand spotlights community accomplishments, praises quality of life

By CIERRA BAILEY

New housing, incoming businesses and public safety were among the list of topics Mayor John Marchand highlighted to exemplify Livermore's thriving quality of life in his first State of the City address since being reelected in the November 2022 general election.

Marchand, who served as mayor from 2011 through 2020 before temporarily terming out, picked up right where he left off with a number of projects he was involved in still among the city's priorities like the Legacy at Livermore apartment complex in downtown that will soon be welcoming residents and the expansion of Black Smith Square, which will bring new retail and dining options to the downtown core.

The May 25 luncheon — where Marchand spoke to a crowd of about 300 guests — was hosted by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce as part of its Wine Country Luncheon series, featuring guest speakers discussing issues relevant to local businesses and the community at large.

While giving an overview of the city's economic status at the event, Marchand shared results from a 2022 citizen survey that found 92% of respondents feel that Livermore is a great place to live and raise a family and 89% feel that the overall quality of life in Livermore is excellent or good.



RON ESSEX PHOTOGRAPHY

Livermore Mayor John Marchand talks new development, public safety and more during his first State of the City address since being reelected in 2022.

"You may have heard me say that, in this political climate, you can't get 92% of the people to agree the sky is blue," Marchand quipped, stressing the significance of the survey results.

Marchand spent a portion of the roughly 40-minute presentation also discussing storm damage recovery. He emphasized the

collaboration between all five Tri-Valley mayors to make sure the entire region is in good shape. He pointed to the example of attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington D.C. along with Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez and Danville Mayor Robert Storer. Together, they advocated for

regional and local projects, including getting a Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster assistance center opened up in the Tri-Valley.

"I'm so proud of the fact that we do collaborate," Marchand said. "When I started out, when somebody was patting you on the back they were looking for a place to put the knife, but now we can actually work together and achieve success like this, which benefits the entire region."

As a retired water chemist, Marchand also touched on the innovation happening in Livermore, including the forthcoming Quest Science Center, the work of i-Gate Innovation Hub to support technology startups in the Tri-Valley and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's historic fusion ignition breakthrough.

Marchand underscored multiple times throughout his presentation that the city's top priority is public safety. He further illustrated this by noting that more than 50% of the city's budget goes to the police and fire departments. Additionally, capital improvement projects on the horizon include modernizing Fire Station 6 on East Avenue — home to the city's centennial light bulb — and renovations to the police department building.

"We are continuing to grow and we need to make sure that the public safety has the tools that they need to accomplish their goals

which is to protect our community," Marchand said.

Finally moving forward with the Springtown Open Space improvements and increasing public parking options downtown are also among the city's ongoing projects.

Marchand shouted out a number of new businesses that have either recently opened or are coming soon to Livermore, including the forthcoming Farmers Union Restaurant set to take over the site of the vacant SBC building downtown. The locally sourced American fare restaurant will feature indoor and outdoor dining as well as rooftop dining and a full bar serving local wines and beers.

Other new eateries include St. John's Soul Food, Crumbl Cookies and Sons of Liberty Alehouse, among others.

With the city's ongoing growth and expansion along with its embrace of innovation and technology, Marchand noted that Livermore is quickly becoming a destination community. He said, "We used to be a city that people would drive through and now we're a city that people drive to."

Marchand's full presentation is currently airing on TV30 and live-streaming at tv30.org during various times throughout the month. The schedule can be found on the station's website. Additionally, the speech may be viewed anytime on the TV30 website via video on demand. ■

## West Nile virus confirmed in dead birds found in Pleasanton

District to increase monitoring on mosquitoes

By JOSIE DE LA TORRE

Two dead birds recently located in Pleasanton tested positive for West Nile virus, according to the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District.

While a group of mosquitoes tested positive for the virus in the

beginning of the year, the dead birds found on May 31 represent the first indication of active virus transmission in Alameda County in 2023, district officials said. The exact location of the discovery was not released.

"This local virus positive detection by our laboratory staff

reminds the public West Nile virus is endemic in our community and the best way to stop any future transmission is by decreasing the numbers of mosquitoes," General Manager Ryan Clausnitzer said in a statement.

"As the entire region has noticed, we have had far more

rain this year than we had for many years and excess standing water creates more opportunities for mosquitoes to produce," Clausnitzer added.

The district has increased mosquito monitoring and larval control effects throughout the area where the dead birds were discovered, officials said. Efforts are being made to track down areas of standing water where mosquitoes may breed, but not limited to catch basins, storm drain systems and swimming pools.

Dead birds also play a vital role in the district to monitor West Nile virus transmission activity in Alameda County. Public reporting on dead birds is important for its surveillance program, officials said.

There have been no human cases of West Nile virus reported as of 2023, according to the California Public Health Department.

The virus can be transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito, and there

is no cure for the virus. Those who are infected with West Nile virus may develop mild symptoms such as fever, headache, joint pains, rashes or vomiting. Less than 1% of people may develop meningitis or encephalitis.

According to the district, residents can reduce the risk of West Nile virus and other mosquito diseases by dumping standing water on their property because mosquito larvae thrive in; limit outdoor activities during dusk and dawn, which are peak mosquito hours; wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts and spray on EPA-registered mosquito repellent; and check all window and door screens do not have any tears or holes.

To find out more about mosquitoes, West Nile virus or to request district services, visit [www.mosquitoes.org](http://www.mosquitoes.org) or call 510-783-7744. For information regarding virus symptoms, prevention and testing, contact the Alameda County Public Health Department at 510-267-8001. ■



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# City Council shows support for local control initiative

Our Neighborhood Voices measure would fight back against state housing laws

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council adopted a resolution last week stating that the city supports a draft initiative written by Our Neighborhood Voices, a grassroots group fighting for local control rights by placing a measure on the 2024 ballot statewide.

The proposed initiative, which city staff told the council was just a draft body of text that still needs to be reviewed by the California Attorney General's Office in order to receive an official title and summary, states that local land use and zoning policies should override conflicting state laws in regards to housing development.

The council adopted the resolution in a 3-2 vote at its June 6 regular meeting, with Mayor Karla Brown and Vice Mayor Jack Balch dissenting.

"What we're doing is supporting the initiative to get on the ballot and let the voters decide," said Councilmember Julie Testa, who has been asking that the council endorse the initiative for over a year.

"Our community has made very clear their concerns about the state overreach," Testa added. "What this initiative would do is ... give cities an opportunity to regain that local

authority. If there is a state law and a city has a local ordinance that conflicts, the local ordinance would prevail."

Originally on consent calendar, which are items deemed routine in nature and typically voted on without discussion, Balch pulled the support resolution for public discussion because he had questions about the consequences of such a measure — many of which were left unanswered in his mind after Testa tried to offer some further information.

"This initiative is a constitutional amendment and I take that question of endorsing a constitutional amendment very seriously," Balch said. "We have people putting things into the record tonight who are not attorneys and are giving us opinions based on their understanding."

Balch was referring to when he tried asking city attorney Dan Sodergren about things like disputes between state and city authority, possible legal litigation costs and possible state limitations on infrastructure funding to which Sodergren couldn't comment on because he had not yet reviewed the initiative text.

"That concerns me," Balch said. "I have unanswered questions that I started with to try to clarify as to

how it will affect Pleasanton."

However, Testa attempted to assure the council that proponents who worked on the initiative with the Sacramento legislative council to tighten up the language made it clear that the constitutional amendment would address land use and zoning only.

But Brown, who also wanted Sodergren and the Attorney General's Office to review the initiative text before endorsing it, told the council that while she does support grassroots efforts, the ballot measure might be too optimistic for its goals.

"I think it is Herculean, at best," Brown said in regards to the initiative's goal. "It requires huge sums of money, an army of volunteers and I just don't see (Our Neighborhood Voices) having that."

She also asked why the city would put itself in that position against the state at such an early stage when she said state legislators have already been taking away local control for so long.

"(State legislators) have great power and they're taking it from cities, they've done that for years, and they're gonna continue to do that," Brown said. "I agree with the concept of standing up. I think it's too early."

But even though it is at a "step one" stage in the ballot process, Testa said it's still important to stand up against the state by supporting Our Neighborhood Voices.

"We need to help them. They're a group of volunteers who have been carrying water for cities across the state," Testa said. "I know it's what our community expects of us to stand up and try and do what we can to push back on the abuse that is coming from the state."

She also tried answering questions from one of the public commenters, Jocelyn Combs, who told the council that they shouldn't adopt the resolution and should further review it because it would eliminate all the legislation that made her accessory dwelling unit and thousands of other ADUs throughout the state possible.

ADUs are smaller, secondary homes that are located on properties with main residential units.

"The draft initiative deserves more scrutiny," Combs said. "It's confusing and could be wide-ranging."

But Testa said the initiative wouldn't take away ADUs, it would only restrict ADUs from being built in areas that impede on other properties.

"We are losing far more than we are gaining, and it's time to stand

up. It's just time to say that it's gone too far," she said. "It certainly doesn't eliminate our responsibility to build housing and build affordable housing. The laws that are being passed are just a scam; they're not really to produce affordable housing. They are to require us to produce market-rate housing."

Our Neighborhood Voices, according to Testa, plans on sending its draft text to the Attorney General's Office in July in order to get an official title and summary for next year's ballot.

## In other business

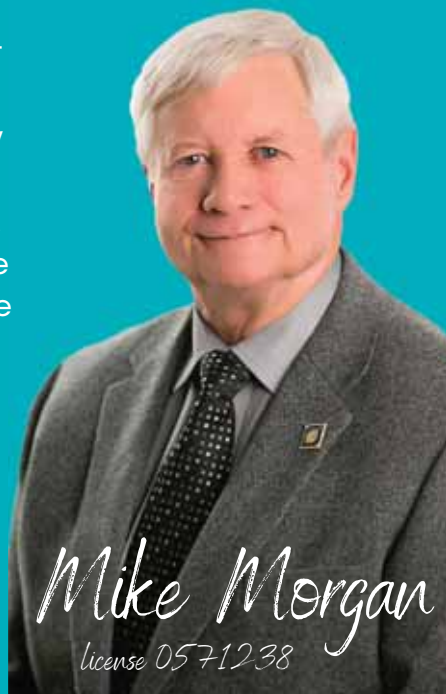
- While housing development was brought up a lot during the initiative vote, the city pushed pause on discussing its state-mandated Housing Element, which was continued after City Manager Gerry Beaudin said issues arose from one of the site locations.

Adopted on Jan. 26 by the council, the city's sixth Housing Element is a document that serves as a plan to address Pleasanton's mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation counts for new residential units within designated affordability categories.

See **NEIGHBORHOOD** on Page 10

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# Demonstrators protest funding for Santa Rita expansion

Coalition calls for oversight and alternatives to incarceration after fifth death at county jail this year

By JEANITA LYMAN

A group of approximately 50 people from various community organizations rallied in Oakland on a cloudy Tuesday morning to decry additional funding for the Alameda County jail that has seen dozens of deaths over recent years along with increasing scrutiny.

Members of the groups composing the recently formed Care First Community Coalition and community members gathered at the Alameda County Administrative Services Building to protest the allocation of additional funds in the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year to Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

"You can't get well in a cell. The supervisors are telling us that they are more willing to incarcerate our family members than care for them. We call for care and treatment first," said Glenn Turner of Families Advocating for the Seriously Mentally Ill (FASMI) in a statement ahead of the rally.

At the event, Turner detailed the impact that the alleged mishandling of her daughter Hazel Turner's mental health needs during her time in Santa Rita had on her and her family — specifically her daughter's refusal to accept mental health treatment

after being released, which Turner said ultimately led to her death.

"My daughter died at 48, just about three or four years ago, but she had serious mental illness from her 20s on," Turner said.

"That was a long haul," Turner added. "And eventually she ended up in Santa Rita for setting fire to a family home during psychosis. She spent a year in Santa Rita. And when people are in a psychotic episode, when they are manic, they are disturbed, they're distressed, they're suffering, they don't know what's going on. So what do you think happens when they wind up in Santa Rita? Resisting arrest — solitary for you."

Turner said that like many people who are incarcerated at Santa Rita, her daughter was there for months. Despite ultimately being treated with effective medication before her release, Turner said that she watched her daughter rapidly spiral downward, refusing medical care of any kind after her time behind bars, and spending years on the streets before Turner managed to get her into housing.

"After my daughter died I thought 'now I have some energy,'" Turner said. "I don't have to work all the time. I'm going to fight for justice ... that's it, that's my new job."

Turner and FASMI are among the numerous activists and community groups making up Care First, with the latest rally being the coalition's second event, following a vigil and march outside the doors of Santa Rita Jail in early April with a crowd of approximately 75 people.

At the time of the April vigil, the jail had reported four deaths in 2023 and 66 total since 2014. Since then, the death toll this year has risen to five, following the death of Eric Magana, a homeless man from Livermore, on April 27.

Barbara Doss, whose son Dajuan Armstrong died while incarcerated at Santa Rita in 2018, also said that she was dedicated to seeking justice for her child and pushing lawmakers to find alternatives to incarceration and oversee the jail and sheriff's office.

"We have a mental health crisis going on in the jail system," Doss said. "We have murders going on in the jail system. And you want to give them money? I don't think so."

Doss along with other family members of Armstrong's, including his two children, were plaintiffs in a subsequent lawsuit filed by civil rights attorney John Burris in 2019 that settled in March.

"We need to be first of all holding these officers accountable for what they have been doing," Doss said. "You want to give money away? Give it to mental health care. Give it to the people who ain't got no home. Give it to the people that's in Santa Rita that get out of Santa Rita."

Doss said that nearly five years later, she still had questions about her son's death that had not been answered in court proceedings or elsewhere.

"From a Friday to a Sunday, he was supposed to come home," Doss said. "I'm waiting on my baby, I'm cooking dinner ... They didn't come to my house until 8:35 that evening on Sunday to tell me my child was deceased."

While a class action lawsuit filed against the county in 2018 ultimately yielded a settlement that included a commitment to accountability and oversight of the jail in 2021, as did pressure from activists during protests in the wake of the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin in 2020, Care First organizers said that the Board of Supervisors had failed to implement any significant measures.

"When the county says we need money for housing; we need money for mental health care; we need money for substance use treatment — there's a rule, an unwritten rule that the county administrator says if you want to get that money you have to identify an outside source for that money," said John Lindsay-Poland, of the American Friends Service Committee.

"So even though after the George



JEANITA LYMAN

Barbara Doss speaks at Tuesday's protest about the death of her son Dajuan Armstrong during a weekend in Santa Rita Jail in 2018.

Floyd protests in 2020 there was a forensic thing that was introduced for \$50 million annually in mental healthcare in the county and the Board of Supervisors says that sounds really great, where's the money? And there wasn't any money from an outside source, so they have not funded it," he continued.

In particular, activists at this week's rally were protesting a proposed \$80 million expansion for Santa Rita that was added as part of the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which supervisors heard a presentation on during a special meeting at 3 p.m. Of the total pricetag, nearly \$27 million would come from county funds, according to Care First organizers.

"How can Alameda County justify spending \$27 million to fund the expansion of a jail with a track record of negligence and abuse? We're sick and tired of hearing that there's no money for resources like permanent supportive housing and full service partnerships," said Joy George of Restore Oakland Inc. "These asks are

not aspirational, they are essential to providing stability and community safety."

A spokesperson for District 1 Supervisor David Haubert's office said that they had no comment on the rally but supported everyone's right to protest and were open to Care First's core mission. District 4 Supervisor Nate Miley's office did not return a request for comment as of Tuesday evening.

While it has only been over the past year that a range of community and activist groups raising concerns about deaths at Santa Rita have come together to form Care First, speakers at Tuesday's rally emphasized that they would be continuing to make their message heard by public officials, and would continue to push for funding for mental health care and affordable housing in the county rather than increased spending on the jail and sheriff's office.

Doss and Turner were comparing stories and discussing next steps as the crowd dissipated at approximately 11:30 a.m. ■

## TAKE US ALONG



### Happy Father's Day

Young Francis Walsh visits his parents' alma mater, American University, during a family trip to Washington, D.C. this spring — and of course his dad, editorial director Jeremy Walsh, brought the Weekly along for the ride.

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

## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### City Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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

- **Public Hearing** – Adopt resolutions approving the 2023/24 annual assessments for Landscape Maintenance Districts 1984-1 (Ponderosa-Del Prado), 1993-1 (Windsor), 1993-2 (Bonde Ranch), 1994-1 (Oak Tree Farm) and 1995-1 (Moller Ranch)
- **Continued from June 6, 2023** - Public Hearing – Adopt a resolution amending the adopted Land Use Element and 2023-2031 (6th Cycle) Housing Element of the General Plan in response to comments from the State Department of Housing and Community Development
- Introduction of proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Joint Powers Authority and the International Association of Battalion Chiefs, Local 1974 with term ending June 30, 2025
- Consideration of the following Waste and recycling matters:
  - a. Consider and adopt a resolution to approve rates for solid waste, recyclable materials, and organic materials collections for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 as required by the Franchise Agreement between the City and Pleasanton Garbage Service Inc
  - b. Consider and adopt a resolution to direct that the funds in the 35-gallon residential cart migration liability account held by Pleasanton Garbage Service Inc. be remitted to the City by September 30, 2024, and that those funds be held in the City's PGS special revenue reserve Fund 171 to be used for waste and recycling related expenses

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

# Robeks celebrates one-year reopening anniversary

With community support, Sunny Koo keeps business running after husband's sudden death

BY CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore business owner Sunny Koo greeted patrons and community leaders with outstretched arms Monday to celebrate a triumphant year at her Robeks smoothie shop located downtown.

Robeks has been a First Street staple for the past 16 years, serving fruit juices and healthy bites, but its doors almost closed for good last year after Koo's husband Hojay, who was originally the franchisee of the business, died unexpectedly.

"Right after he passed away, I had to come here to get something and when I walked in, the first thing I saw was his dirty apron. So right there I was like, I can't do this. I didn't think I could come back to work every single day and not think about him and how much he worked so hard for 15 years," Koo told Livermore Vine.

"So I said, you know what? I'm going to sell this and walk away," she added.

Once word got around that Koo was planning to close up shop,



Owner Sunny Koo celebrates one year back in business at Robeks in downtown Livermore.

neighboring businesses, longtime customers and others in the community came together to encourage Koo to keep the store going. "All my friends, all the business owner

neighbors and the community kept saying, 'don't give it up,'" she said, adding that they reminded her that the business is part of her husband's legacy.

"It's like a family," Koo said of her supporters. "I've been seeing everyone like the high school sweethearts who come and have dates here and grab a smoothie, then they get married and have kids and they come back."

Reflecting back on the many years of memories and embracing the motivation from others prompted Koo to decide to reopen after being closed for five months. "It was a journey but I did it," she said.

She attended Robeks' corporate training to learn all the aspects of the business and even started wearing Hojay's reading glasses so he could be with her and help her see her way through the difficult times.

A year has gone by since Robeks' reopening and during that time, in addition to learning about the business, Koo said she has had to learn some technical and mechanical skills in order to figure out how to fix aging machines and appliances that endured more than a decade of wear and tear.

"By the time a year has passed by,

I'm like a handywoman," Koo said with a laugh, adding that neighboring business owners and Google have helped her along the way.

To formally mark the one-year reopening, Koo and her team held a happy hour-style event on Monday, featuring samples of their Wailea Watermelon Mint smoothie and live music by singer Horatio Monroe. Mayor John Marchand and Livermore Downtown Inc. Executive Director Ruby Lopez-Villarreal each shared brief remarks, highlighting Koo's resilience and bravery.

Additionally, Koo held a fundraiser for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District as part of the celebration. From the entire day's sales, 20% of the proceeds will be donated to the district.

Koo is now a single mother of two, with one child still attending school in Livermore. Throughout this difficult year, Koo said her son's teachers and administrators were a tremendous help. The fundraiser, she said, is her way of saying thank you and giving back. ■

## BUDGET

Continued from Page 5

dissenting, came after a long discussion on how city budgets work and why things like an expanded skate park and renovations to the historic Century House would not dip into funds for things like police salaries or water infrastructure.

"We've had an uptick in public comments about how some of our capital projects relate to our police officers association contract as well as investment in our water system," Beaudin said.

Beaudin was referring to the emails he and others on the dais have received from residents who either supported certain CIP amenities like the skatepark or who wanted those projects to be deferred so that money could be spent on better police salaries and benefits in light of the Pleasanton Police Officers Association declaring an impasse during labor contract negotiations.

"Why are we spending cash and placing the entire burden of the rehabilitation of the skate park and the Century House on current residents?" said Vicki LaBarge, a longtime resident who suggested that the city could maybe take out a loan to pay off those amenities.

"Please don't take the cash out of our reserves when we have pressing issues," she added. "It's time to stop or pause or rethink the nice to have amenities and focus on (our) must have priorities. Rethink the budget, spend the \$10 million where it's desperately needed."

The \$10 million she referred to

was the total combined funds that would have come from deferring the skatepark and Century House.

Another big issue that many residents wanted to see be funded instead of the skate park expansion at Ken Mercer Sports Park or the efforts to restore the 150-year-old historic Century House, was Pleasanton's water infrastructure, which has seen more PFAS, otherwise known as forever chemicals, in the city's groundwater wells over the past few years.

"It's all a matter of priorities," said Arne Olson, who served on the Pleasanton City Council from 2014 to 2018. "The four of you are just bound and determined to improve that skate park and I don't see what it does for infrastructure in this city when those funds could be applied to what you say is your top priority, which is water."

However, Beaudin — along with several of the other members of the dais — spent a good amount of the discussion talking about how residents have to understand that money going toward rehabilitating the skatepark at Ken Mercer or renovating the Century House is not taking away money from police salaries or water infrastructure.

"Setting capital projects up against police or our water system is a false dichotomy. We have to do all of these things," Beaudin explained. "Capital projects are mainly one-time money and while there are operational and maintenance costs associated with a capital investment, they're not the same as the salary and benefits which live forever in our budget

and are compounded over time."

He also explained that while the city could in the future decide to look at capital or general fund reserves as a way to solve near term financial issues in regards to water infrastructure, it is not a preferred route to take.

"If we had a hard time finding money to start some of those efforts, then we could look at the capital reserve, essentially, as a way to do that," Beaudin said. "We could also look at the general fund reserve as a way to solve a near term financial issue. But that's not, again, the preferred approach."

"There are funding sources available that are market-driven funding sources — they're not internally moving money around in our pots of money — that we have available to allow the water enterprise fund to get up on its own two feet," he added noting the water enterprise fund that city staff previously said has been projected to fall below the minimum reserve level.

One of those sources include raising its water rates, which the city is currently working on as part of a water rate adjustment study.

Councilmember Valerie Arkin also made the point that even if the council were to defer certain capital projects, that money wouldn't make a dent in the \$46 million that was previously projected for the construction of a PFAS treatment and rehabilitation facility, which the council voted to push pause on to consider other long term options.

"I know there have been people that have said, well, delay this

project, don't do this, whatever to help with the water infrastructure," Arkin said. "The option that we were potentially going to consider a year ago had a price tag of about \$46 million. So a \$5 million, \$6 million project, I mean, it can't even begin to address that."

She also reiterated that the city is working on looking at long-term — and even short-term — options for how to deal with Pleasanton's water infrastructure and that they will continue to do so even after these budget discussions.

"Whether we (go) forward with any particular capital project or not, we are going to address our water infrastructure issue in the best way possible," Arkin said. "It's not going to deviate because we don't do one capital project or don't do the other."

But Balch, much like the last few budget workshops, held his ground on opposing the budget for reasons including economic uncertainty, revenue projections not increasing as fast as expense and inadequate reserves.

"The city's expenditures are projected to increase at a faster rate than the revenue — pure and simple," Balch said. "It's putting pressure on the budget."

"The city budget indicates there's a growing consensus amongst the economists that recession in the next 12 to 18 months is likely, which is the planned period for this budget," he added. "The budget relies on assumptions (that) we have debated them in tedium and it is okay to disagree and have a different viewpoint ... Mine

is simply that there are several (projects) in here that make me concerned personally."

And while a number of public speakers showed up to voice their support for the Century House and skate park capital projects saying they are both essential amenities for all ages, Balch hammered down on his request to defer those items until the city can assess those priorities after dealing with the main one — its water infrastructure.

"I think it would allow us to have a better clarity as to what we're going to do for our water situation and how we are going to pay for it," Balch said. "I believe it's important to take care of what we have before we add new amenities."

"I respect everyone's opinion on the Century House and the skate-board park," he added. "It's not my concern about what amenities we choose. I understand that issue. It's when we choose our current challenge financially over any amenity."

The council majority ultimately outvoted Balch and approved the budget, with Mayor Karla Brown ending the meeting with updates on how she had worked to obtain \$3 million from the U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell's (D-Livermore) office for its efforts on PFAS and is currently working with Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) to obtain another \$3 million.

"These monies are going to continue to come in," Brown said. "I'm very proud to do this as a leader for the city of Pleasanton to do outreach and to continue to bring funds into this community." ■

# Three Tri-Valley staffers win Alameda County Classified Employee of the Year awards

Adams and Larsen from Dublin, Perea-Tellez from Livermore tops countywide

By NICOLE GONZALES

For their outstanding dedication and work, three Tri-Valley school employees have been honored by the Alameda County Office of Education, receiving 2023 Classified Employee of the Year awards.

Staff recognized by Alameda County were selected from each school district's respective Classified Employee of the Year winners in multiple categories based on job types. District winners who demonstrated extreme excellence were then highlighted for their work at the county level.

Out of the 18 total districts in the county, two staff members from Dublin Unified School District and one from Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District were recognized.

Sean Adams, head custodian of Dublin Elementary School, has worked at the school site for 12 years. Adams received the countywide



Sean Adams

Custodial and Maintenance Services award for an outstanding attitude and commitment to school needs.

When describing Adams in a statement, district staff said, "he goes above and beyond in his work and engages with students, staff and parents with a smile."

Staff said out of a student body of 800, Adams knows each one by name.

"He is quick to address the concerns of staff and students," the statement added. "His positive demeanor brightens everyone's day. His proactive actions help provide a safe and functional environment for staff and students."

Aside from maintenance duties, Adams also helps out by teaching girls' basketball.

Laura Larsen was DUSD's second classified employee to be honored by Alameda County, in the Health and Student Services category. Larsen has worked as a health services assistant for 10 years at Frederiksen Elementary School.

Larsen was praised by staff for her care of students with injuries or illness.

"She is always willing to help any student or staff member at Frederiksen

Elementary School," staff said in a statement. "Her friendliness to visitors is noteworthy in helping to meet their needs or answer their questions."

"(Larsen's) collaborative approach to working with colleagues, teachers, families, and administration has made her an asset to the Frederiksen school community," staff added.

From LVJUSD, Carmen Perea-Tellez was honored as the county's top paraprofessional. Perea-Tellez, who also earned statewide recognition this year, provides support as a bilingual instructional aide, assisting in various English language development (ELD) and English learner (EL) programs.

Staff noted that Perea-Tellez often goes above and beyond to support the students and teachers she works with.

"Carmen has greatly enhanced the support provided to EL students at Livermore High School, and her efforts are having an impact throughout the district and community,"



Laura Larsen

LHS staff said. "She works with teachers to help in translating assignments and handouts for EL students and with academic counselors to build students' schedules with the goal of better academic outcomes for all EL students."

Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Alysse Castro honored the employees further in a statement.

"I am excited to recognize the 2023 Alameda County Classified Employees of the Year whose exemplary work supports Alameda County schools everyday," Castro said. "These honorees are undeniably committed and go above and beyond to make sure students have what they need to be successful. Their essential roles ensure students have healthy meals, reliable transportation, and safe campuses that create conditions where students can thrive."

Other countywide winners were Cecilia Franco, Martha Flores and Belinda Campbell from Oakland



Carmen Perea-Tellez

Unified School District, Tiong Tan of Fremont Unified School District, Theodore Bently of New Haven Unified School District and Debbie Rose of Castro Valley Unified School District. ■

## NEIGHBORHOOD

Continued from Page 7

After years of deliberation on which occupied and vacant sites to zone for potential housing development, the city had submitted its final draft Housing Element on Feb. 14 so that California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) officials could review and approve the document.

And despite HCD officials finding that most of the document complied with state Housing Element law statutory requirements, the city had received a notice letter April 10 noting that the city needed to make some additional revisions in order for the document to be certified — which have been addressed since then.

However, Beaudin told the council at the very beginning of the June 6 meeting that because of an issue with one of the site locations, staff had to postpone bringing the Housing Element for council review.

He said that while they don't have a date yet, they plan on getting it back in front of the council as soon as possible. ■

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450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto 94306.

## A message from our editorial director, Jeremy Walsh

Hi, I'm Jeremy Walsh, editorial director for the Pleasanton Weekly, DanvilleSanRamon.com and LivermoreVine.com. A Benicia native, I've been with Embarcadero Media's East Bay Division since 2013.

Part of what really draws me to local community journalism is probably what connects you to our publications too: sharing in the human experience. Telling the stories that impact people's lives can be quite powerful. So too can be the stories about the impact of people's lives.

I recently had the privilege of reflecting on the impact of Pleasanton community leader Don Lewis, an innovator and pioneer in the music world, upon his passing. Here was a man who touched so many lives through his passion and creativity — and a trademark smile — that so many around the Tri-Valley knew and respected. These are tough assignments for any reporter (and lord knows I've had my share of news obituaries this year), but they are so important for us to do, with the right balance of context, perspective and humanity. Don's story was so emblematic of the human experience; the process of telling it surely left an imprint on me as a journalist.

I'm so proud of the great journalism our small but mighty editorial team puts out on a daily basis. We recognize the vital role we play in your community, and our No. 1 goal is always to produce articles with the range and depth that our readers crave. That's why the Tri-Valley turns to us as the authoritative voice in local journalism. And we're so grateful for the support of our members, who allow us to practice our craft and grow as an organization. Consider supporting local journalism today!



Jeremy Walsh  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

## PMF AWARD

Continued from Page 5

inducted as an honorary member of the Special Forces Regiment by the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

“There were only maybe four women before me — civilians — that have received this, so it was an honor for me to be there,” Aryana said regarding the ceremony, which was held April 20 at the JFK Auditorium in Fort Liberty, N.C. (formerly Fort Bragg).

“(I had) people thanking me, people who are the generals of the Army and the defense secretary for our country ... It was a great feeling,” she added.

Following the beginning of a revolution in Iran, Aryana moved to the U.S. and met up with her sister and parents who had already immigrated here. Having left her ex-husband at the time due to him being in the Iranian Army, Aryana arrived in the Bay Area with one son, one on the way and no English-speaking skills.

So she did what she knew best without having any college education: She worked in whatever she could — which ended up being a cleaning lady at a Carl’s Jr. in east side San Jose where she eventually worked her way up to be a

manager at the store while also learning English.

“From my perspective, I think she’s achieved a lot more than I have because I had all the (educational) background that I needed, and she did it in spite of not having it,” said Afsaneh Laidlaw, Aryana’s sister.

After 11 years at the fast-food restaurant, Aryana decided it was time for a change so she worked in the security business for several years before opening her own security business in order to put her sons through school.

She first got involved with PMF after her son graduated from Amador Valley High School and told her that he wanted to join the Army. At first, she told him no as she had wanted him to get a college degree first — which he did.

After earning his psychology degree, enlisting in the Army and getting deployed to Afghanistan 21 years ago, Aryana said that not only did PMF provide her with a strong support community while her son was gone, it gave her a newfound sense of purpose, which was sending those care packages to the thousands of troops overseas — all of who she saw as her own kids.

“These boxes mean so much when we send them to (the troops),” she said. “We get many thank-you letters from them ... and

they appreciate what they get.”

“It just absolutely melts my heart because these are my kids, all of them, and I couldn’t have done anything really without the help of Pleasanton Military Families,” she added.

And when the news of Aryana receiving recognition from the U.S. Army found its way back to the other PMF members, many of them said they were not surprised.

“I thought it was extremely well-deserved,” Pat Frizzell, who helped restart the support group alongside PMF founder Chris Miller in 2003, told the Weekly.

Frizzell, whose son was in the Marine Corps and was deployed to Iraq in 2003, said that through her many roles at PMF — including formerly as president and co-chair of the organization — she has seen Aryana continuously give her all to the care package efforts.

The pack-outs — which happen near Easter, Fourth of July and Christmas — had originally started out of garages and backyards but eventually grew so big that they needed more space.

Now, the group works out of the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building where they sort, package and prepare hundreds of boxes with all kinds of items. The last pack-out happened just last Friday where over 150 volunteers filled

the main hall inside the building to help package and send 179 care packages to troops in places like South Korea, Colombia, Iraq, Qatar and Japan.

But even with the hundreds of volunteers helping write cards and move boxes, Frizzell said Aryana is still there because, like herself, they both see the organization as a family and do the work because they care about all the troops and their families.

“She does what she does out of love, it’s a passion for her,” Frizzell said. “She never expects or wants any kind of acknowledgement for what she does. It’s just part of who she is.”

Denise Harper, current president of PMF, told the Weekly that she’s also just as proud to hear that Aryana had received the recognition she deserves, especially because of the fact Aryana doesn’t just oversee the shipping of the packages.

“She’s out there not only with our custom forms and taking care of our pack-out — she’s working behind the scenes in knitting caps, beanies during every year she’s been doing this,” Harper said.

“I know that she’s a very shy person and she doesn’t like recognition like this, because she just feels this is her duty to do for our troops, because of what they do for

us,” Harper added. “To me, that’s the bottom line of ... who (Aryana) is.”

Laidlaw also pointed out that without her nephew, Aryana’s son who is now a command sergeant major in the Special Forces, some of this would have been possible because he helps out with being that source of information as to where the troops are located overseas.

“Because her son knew where people were, and how to contact them ... in crazy places, like in the middle of nowhere in Afghanistan, in Syria, in Iraq, I mean, places that it’s extremely difficult to reach, without his help none of this would have been possible,” Laidlaw said.

But at the end of the day, it was thanks to being nominated by those same soldiers and troops, that Aryana was able to be recognized. While she is just happy that her son is safe, she hopes to continue providing for those young soldiers whose families might still be worried as they serve their country overseas.

“Since I joined, I have never left,” she said. “And I will be (with Pleasanton Military Families) as long as they need me because we still have kids in a bunch of places. Even though the war is over, we still have kids that are not with their parents and families.” ■

## IB PROGRAM

Continued from Page 5

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District analyzed the participation and cost of the program and determined that the level of student interest was too low for the program to be cost effective.

Students and parents pushed back, arguing that the district’s data was skewed and misrepresented the level of interest and value of the program.

The IB program aims to help develop the intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills of students in order to help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect, according to the school district’s website. The program offers rigorous courses and college-preparatory instruction as well as weighted grades and capstone exams that can result in college credit.

In the weeks following the announcement of its termination, a group of parents and community members started working on ways to save the program, including raising funds to offset the cost. Conover acknowledged their efforts in his email.

“We appreciate the many creative ideas that surfaced, both to help raise funds and to help reduce expenses. We value your support as we work through these economic challenges,” he said.

Members of the parent working group expressed gratitude to the district for listening to them and their children and quickly finding a solution.

“We appreciate that LVJUSD’s leaders and School Board Trustees considered the concerns of students, parents, and community members who advocated to maintain the IB program,” said parent Jennifer Wong in an email to Livermore Vine.

She continued, “It’s a shame that IB was considered for budget cuts at all, especially since it has turned Granada into a destination school. Over 400 students took at least one IB class just this year alone. IB brings revenue into LVJUSD with the students who commute from other cities to attend Granada. With the promotion this week of the first cohort of students who have completed the K-8 IB curriculum at Joe Michell, we are just beginning to see the impact of offering the full K-12 IB continuum in Livermore schools. Cutting that now would have been incredibly short-sighted.”

Skye McCloud echoed similar sentiments.

“The budget numbers given by the school district were inaccurate and misrepresented both the cost of the program and the cost per student. This gives us more time to look at the facts and determine the reality. It is a wonderful opportunity to have the school and community work together to get the program running even better at Granada. IB has put Granada on the map, bringing in students from other districts and attracting families to Livermore. Keeping IB is positive for the future of both the district and the city,” McCloud said.

Wong also noted that the group is

hopeful that the district and community can work together to sustain the program indefinitely.

“The IB Parents’ Working Group is optimistic for the future of the program at Granada. We hope to partner with the school and district leadership to identify and implement strategies to strengthen and support IB at Granada over the long term,” she said.

LVJUSD officials told the Weekly that they are reducing the financial impact of the IB Diploma Programme by discontinuing non-required elements and limiting course offerings.

“This will allow us to continue to offer the courses that have high student interest, such as History of the Americas and Language and Literature, to all juniors and seniors regardless of their interest in pursuing an IB diploma, while streamlining diploma-specific course requirements in order to maintain class sizes that keep our budget intact,” district officials said.

However, they noted that even with a streamlined IB program, additional costs remain to be able to offer this option to students.

The district said it will need to address these costs through reductions in expenditures in other areas or increases in resources. Parents who have expressed interest in raising funds for the IB program have been directed to connect with the Livermore Valley Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides funding to support a variety of needs for the benefit of LVJUSD students. ■

## Ronald Lawrence Reed

Resident of Pleasanton

March 28, 1944 – June 8, 2023

Ronald “Ron” Reed, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully at age 79 on Thursday, June 8, 2023, after a recent and aggressive battle with cancer.

Born and raised in San Francisco, he attended Balboa High School and joined the Marine Corps in 1965. He actively served for four years as a sea-going Marine Sergeant and was proud to work closely alongside Vice Admiral B. Roeder and Vice Admiral L. Ramage, both Commanders of the First Fleet. At the end of his term, he became a tradesman for the sheet metal workers for two years before becoming a Burlingame Police Officer in January of 1971. During his law enforcement career, he served as Watch Commander, S.W.A.T. Team Leader, K-9 Officer, Field Training Officer, and Hostage Team Negotiator. After 37 years, he retired and spent the remainder of his life with his family and serving as the unofficial “Mayor” of his neighborhood. Ron enjoyed camping, gardening, tinkering around the house, and doting on his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ron is survived by his loving wife, Judie; devoted children Darcy Diaz (Ray) of Redwood City and Tom Reed (Alberta) of Tracy; grandchildren Heather Lemos (Christopher “Budd”) and Dalton Diaz of Redwood City, Jordan Reed of Riverbank, and David Saucedo and Nicolas Perez of Tracy; great-children Callie Lemos and Brody Lemos. His generous and desire-to-serve-others spirit will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know and love him. For many, he will be remembered as their hero.

Close friends and family are invited to attend his Celebration of Life scheduled for Saturday, June 24 at 2 pm at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First Street, Pleasanton. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (cff.org).

PAID OBITUARY

# GET READY FOR THE

Big opening weekend kicks off 20 days of summer fun



Carnival rides are among the main draws at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton each year. (Left and background photos courtesy of Alameda County Fair; below photo is Weekly file photo).



**T**he Alameda County Fair makes its annual return to the Pleasanton fairgrounds this weekend, bringing its classic slate of summer fun to the heart of the Tri-Valley over the next 3-1/2 weeks.

Opening this Friday (June 16) and running through July 9, the fair is open Wednesdays to Sundays from noon to 11 p.m. Operating days and hours will remain the same throughout the duration of the fair, with the exception of July 3 and 4 in which the fair will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

Held yearly, the fair brings a collection of exciting activities to the Alameda County Fairgrounds, including carnival rides, food, concerts, horse racing, artistic and agricultural exhibits, special events and more summer fun.

Notable main attractions for opening weekend include the Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest West Coast qualifiers on Saturday, Father's Day offerings on Sunday, the "Out at the Fair" LGBTQ+ pride celebration on Sunday, and Con Funk Shun, Yachtley Crew-The Titans of Soft Rock and Bee Gees Gold on the concert stage.

Megan Kreider, an Alameda County Fair marketing representative, spoke to the Weekly about the upcoming events and attractions.

"The coolest thing is there is a little bit of something for everybody. I think that's what

makes the fair so special: No matter who you are or what you like, we have something for you," Kreider said.

To kick off the opening weekend, organizers have planned fireworks and a drone show — in addition to the many familiar sights, sounds and tastes.

"Some classics we have are our pig races that are a huge hit every year. They're always a crowd favorite and something that people look forward to every year," Kreider said. "We also have live horse racing back for opening weekend, it's always a big reason people come back every year. It's a historic race track."

Kreider shared that on Father's Day, the first 1,000 fathers that enter through fair gates will receive a free "drink koozie" as a gift.

"That's our way of celebrating fathers this year with a little gift as they come through the gates," she said.

Along with the various live events visitors can catch while on the fairgrounds, a diverse series of music performances will offer additional entertainment throughout the fair's 2023 run.

"For our nightly concerts we have a really good lineup this year. We have something for everyone," Kreider said. "We have E-40, Night Ranger, Joe Nichols, Jesse McCartney

and so many more.

There's something special about being in that amphitheater in summer now too."

Aside from the major live events, visitors can indulge in plenty of fair food fun. Kreider shared that all of the regular fair food will be there, along with some new items.

"The No. 1 reason people come back is the food. You can get your classic corn dogs and

funnel cakes as always," Kreider said. "This year we also have some new ones. We've got spam musubi, a deep-fried ice cream taco and then we also have a Dragon Dog this year."

The Dragon Dog, the fair's newest item, is a hot dog dipped in corn dog batter, rolled

# THE COUNTY FAIR

## her fun in Pleasanton - BY NICOLE GONZALES



Clockwise from top left: Other favorite attractions at the fair include horse racing (photo courtesy Alameda County Fair), creative performers such as clowns on stilts (Weekly file photo), fried foods galore (Weekly file photo) and livestock exhibitions (photo courtesy Alameda County Fair).

in Takis crumbs and topped with hot sauce.

“People come for the classics, but we always try to give something new so something to look forward to every year,” she added.

Kreider’s tenure with the fair began in 2017 when she started as an intern. When reflecting on her time since then and now as a full-time staff member, she expressed gratitude for her position.

“Being behind the scenes and realizing what it takes to put on such a large event is awesome,” she said of her work experience with the fair. “Just to see the hard work everybody puts into it is amazing. It’s one thing to see it all get planned and set up, but it’s another thing when people are actually here and enjoying the fair which is why I love working here and being here every day.”

Like many Pleasanton natives, visiting the fair became a summer staple for Kreider in her youth.

“I’ve been coming here since I was a kid. I grew up here in Pleasanton, so I’ve been a fair-goer as long as I can remember,” she said.

Above all, fair organizers hope visitors can enjoy themselves and make life-long memories.

“I think the biggest take-away for guests is the memories that are made here, whether you’re a thrill seeker and you’re on the rides with your friends, or you get to try a crazy fair food item like the Dragon Dog,” Kreider said. “For us, it’s all about being a big part of

the community. It’s the lasting memories that people make here.”

“We pride ourselves here about being all about the community. The fair is a place where people keep coming back every year, they’re making memories,” Kreider added. “A lot of people we talked to say they come back every year with their families.”

For more information and the full events schedule, visit the Alameda County Fair’s official website at [annual.alamedacountyfair.com](http://annual.alamedacountyfair.com). ■



## Juneteenth Festival returns to Bankhead Plaza

Livermore to host main Tri-Valley event for holiday marking end of slavery in U.S.

By JEANITA LYMAN

Local arts and community organizers are gearing up to host an array of performers and speakers this weekend in the region's main event celebrating the end of slavery in the United States.

The Tri-Valley Juneteenth Festival has a jam-packed lineup aimed at showcasing Black voices, artists, organizations and businesses throughout the morning and afternoon on Saturday, followed by an evening dance battle.

The event is organized by Livermore Valley Arts and Tri-Valley for Black Lives (TV4BL), which was formed in 2020 and put on the first major Juneteenth event in the region that year.

"Tri-Valley for Black Lives is excited to be organizing our third annual Juneteenth Festival, to create and expand space for Black joy within our community," TV4BL member Isaiah Campbell said. "We seek to uplift Black creators, performers and entrepreneurs from the surrounding area so we can connect and celebrate our community."

Juneteenth is the longest-standing national celebration of the end of slavery in the United States, marking the date that a Union Army general arrived in Galveston, Texas, on

June 19, 1865 to demand that the remaining enslaved Black people in the state be set free in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation that had been ordered by President Abraham Lincoln approximately two years prior.

President Joe Biden issued a proclamation marking June 19 as a federal holiday, making this year the third Juneteenth recognized federally and the 157th anniversary of the celebration.

"I have been in Livermore for almost 25 years, and I'm excited because this Juneteenth I can feel a collective resurgence of finally feeling like people who look like me belong here," said Faith Alpher, who is emceeding the event for the second year in a row.

Alpher is an educational speaker, actor and comedian as well as a radio personality with Portland-based Alpha Media.

The festival will kick off with introductions from Alpher and Livermore Valley Arts organizers at 10 a.m., followed by words from Pastor Dr. Rick Perry at 10:15 a.m., with Alise Bradford and Moving Van closing out the first portion of the day's festivities starting at 10:25 a.m. and ending with a 10:40 a.m. break.

The music is set to continue with Benton Smith at 10:50 a.m. and Horatio Monroe at



COURTESY TV4BL

Justin A. Metoyer Mullon, also known as JAMM the Artist, is showcasing his work again at this year's Juneteenth Festival.

11:05 a.m., followed by a talk from educator, speaker, and entrepreneur Kei-Che Randle at 11:20 a.m. then dancers Imani Prior and Mikiah Aubert at 11:35 a.m. before an 11:45 a.m. break.

Dancers are set to take to the stage again at the start of the afternoon, with PUSD step dance team Full Force Steppers at noon, followed by speaker Shana Peete at 12:10 p.m. and the Jelani Noble trio at 12:20 p.m. before a 12:50 p.m. break.

Berkeley author and storyteller Tina Jones Williams is set to take to the stage subsequently at 1 p.m.

"Celebrations like Juneteenth are an opportunity to draw on our cultural unshakable joy, expand upon it and share it with others," Williams said.

With Williams being the last of the three speakers in the lineup, musicians and dancers are set to close out the rest of the afternoon.

Singer Aisea Taimani is set to perform at 1:30 p.m., followed by a 2:30 p.m. performance from Ashley Jemison then a 2:45 p.m. performance from dancers Malik Chauhan and Jessica Thomas. The African dance

ensemble is set to close out the day's performances starting at 3 p.m.

In addition to the range of performances and discussions, the festival will showcase and celebrate Black-owned businesses offering a variety of food and shopping options, as well as community organizations and artists.

"Art is a bridge between our consciousness and the world we live in," said Justin A. Metoyer Mullon, one of the vendors set to showcase his multimedia art and offer education at the festival. "We create that world together every day. Creating art that people value brings me joy. I'm participating in this Festival to continue broadening the scope of a world where my community is joyful, loved, respected, and creative."

The Tri-Valley Juneteenth Festival is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday (June 17) at the Bankhead Theater Plaza at 2400 First St. in Livermore. The event is free, family-friendly and open to the public.

The festival is followed immediately by the "East Bay Get Down" dance battle from 4-8 p.m. ■



COURTESY TV4BL

Clockwise from top left: Las Positas College is sponsoring the Tri-Valley Juneteenth Festival again this year. The festival celebrates Black-owned businesses. A youth storytime at a previous Juneteenth Festival in the Bankhead Plaza. Speaker, comedian and radio persona Faith Alpher is emceeding the festival for a second year in a row. Tri-Valley Haven is among the community organizations that participated with a booth at last year.

# Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir performing in Livermore

Bankhead show to share ‘resiliency, joy and strength of the African American community’

By JEREMY WALSH

Tri-Valley audiences will have the opportunity to experience Black gospel and spiritual music performed by one of the Bay Area’s premier groups next week.

Founded more than 35 years ago by Terrance Kelly, the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir aspires to a mission of musical diversity and inclusion through concerts at public, commercial and faith venues as well as schools, shelters, prisons and other underserved or institutionalized audiences, according to its website.

“Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir will celebrate Juneteenth with experience and music that brings and shares the resiliency, joy and strength of the African American community,” Livermore Valley Arts officials said ahead of the group’s concert at the Bankhead Theater.

“This diverse, inclusive group takes us through a gospel music journey — introducing different styles of Black gospel music, and connecting it to the Freedom Songs of the Civil Rights Movement and to music today,” LVA reps added. “Get ready to stand up, clap, and even sing along.”

With Kelly continuing to serve as artistic director, the full choir performs 25 to 30 times per year and includes nine to 15 singers representing the organization at additional events, with performance highlights including the governor’s tree lighting, inauguration ceremonies, jazz festival tours, and annual appearances with the Oakland and San Francisco symphonies, according to the LVA.

The choir is driven by beliefs including “that the song has the power to transform lives and to unite people across differences, that a culture



COURTESY LVA

The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir will be in concert at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on June 23.

of inclusion challenges each of us to be a positive agent of change ... and that everyone has a unique voice, and that every voice is important,” according to its website.

The show is set for 8 p.m. next Friday (June 23) at the Bankhead in downtown Livermore. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org) for tickets and more information. ■

# Trinity Concert Series honoring former pastor and musician

‘Music for Organ and Choir’ to highlight the instrument and classical composers

By NICOLE GONZALES

As part of an ongoing concert series, Trinity Lutheran Church is set to honor one of its most prominent and talented former members.

In tribute to late pastor and organ player Estrella Macute Echavez, the church has planned “Music for Organ and Choir by Fauré, Poulenc, Duruflé, Saint-Saëns, Bach and Mayernik” as part of its Trinity Concert Series. Areté Singers will perform the music of famous composers such as Gabriel Fauré, Francis Poulenc, J.S. Bach and others.

Held at the Trinity Lutheran Church on the edge of downtown Pleasanton, the concert takes place next Saturday (June 24) at 7 p.m. Concert composer Luke Mayernik and members of the Echavez family will host a pre-concert talk at 6:30 p.m.

Conductors Timothy Echavez Salaver, Leandra Ramm, Mary jo Malabuyo, Irene Cheng and Jennifer Liu will perform alongside Mayernik for the concert.

According to church members, the concert series exists as a way to provide quality and affordable music performances for the public.

The late Echavez was known as a pastor, artist, activist and musician. She belonged to several San Francisco-based churches including Wesley Methodist Church where she played organ and piano from 1957 to 1977.

Church staff have said Echavez inspired conductor Salaver’s deep appreciation for classical music and organ.

“Pastor Echavez was also a gifted organist and pianist who played in several San Francisco churches in the 1950s through the 1970s,” concert organizers said in a statement. “She inspired conductor Salaver’s lifelong love of classical music.”

Aside from her music, Echavez was known as a champion of Asian-American equality and actively created opportunities within her community.

“Estrella was the founder and president of the Philippine-American Cultural Foundation, which worked with the city of San Francisco and local churches to produce cultural events for the Filipino community,” church members said of her dedication. “She was recognized by the California State Senate for her work in supporting and promoting the

minority populations in the city of San Francisco and the state of California.”

A fellow organist, Mayernik will be debuting his original “Missa de Octava” for the event. Church staff noted his extensive musical skills in the same statement.

“Luke Mayernik is an award-winning composer, organist, pianist, harpsichordist, improviser and collaborative artist,” Trinity staff said.

A graduate of The San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Mayernik has achieved national acclaim for his professional music compositions and improvisation pieces.

Trinity Church’s resident vocal ensemble, Areté Singers, was founded in 2016 by musical director and composer Salaver. The group has continued to perform regularly for events across the region and greater Bay Area.

“The singers have performed for the SF 49ers, at wineries in Napa and Sonoma, at many tree lightings and for numerous senior care facilities,” concert organizers said. “At Christmas you may have heard and seen Areté Singers somewhere throughout the greater San Francisco Bay area performing as Christmas

carolers dressed in Dickens or holiday-themed costumes.”

Among the ensemble are members of the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, Livermore

Valley Opera and others performing arts groups.

To find out more about the Trinity Concert Series or upcoming performances, visit [trinitypleasanton.org](http://trinitypleasanton.org). ■



Luke Wenceslas Mayernik



Timothy Echavez Salaver



Leandra Ramm



Mary jo Malabuyo



Irene Cheng



Jennifer Liu

COURTESY TLC

The Trinity Concert Series’ “Music for Organ and Choir” will feature the above conductors.

# Outdoor summer series back in Danville

Moonlight Movies and Music in the Park

By JEANITA LYMAN

The town of Danville is hosting two series of outdoor events this summer, with the lineups for both newly announced.

With four events each, the lineup for this year’s Music in the Park and Midnight Movies will see outdoor entertainment on tap in Danville every Friday evening through the start of August.

“Gather friends and family for the return of the annual town of Danville Music in the Park and Moonlight Movies outdoor entertainment series,” town officials said. “Make a picnic or pick up dinner from your favorite Danville spot and enjoy an evening outside.”

The Moonlight Movies series kicks off this Friday (June 16) with a showing of “Shang-Chi and

the Legend of the Ten Rings.” The biweekly screenings continue with “Lightyear” on June 30, followed by “The Emperor’s New Groove” on July 14 and “The Karate Kid” on July 28.

All four events will begin at the Town Green with entertainment and activities at 6:30 p.m., followed by film screenings beginning at approximately 8:15 p.m. during sunset.

Music in the Park starts on June 24 with a performance by pop/indie artist Jason Westfall, followed by cover band the Shania Twain Experience on July 8, R&B, soul and funk artists Project 4 on July 22 and Unauthorized Rolling Stones on Aug. 5.

All four concerts run from 6-8 p.m. with a 20-minute intermission. The first three shows in the series are scheduled for Oak Hill

Park, with parking available at the adjacent community center and at the Monte Vista High School Parking Lot.

The Aug. 5 show is set for the Town Green, with parking available at the Village Theatre and Front Street parking lots. Front Street will be closed to traffic for the final show in the series, with guests being encouraged to arrive and park early.

All of the events in both outdoor series are free and open to the public, with guests being invited to bring their own food and beverages, plus blankets and chairs. ■

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Second teen charged in fentanyl overdose death in Dublin

A young Dublin woman is facing a criminal charge in federal court after authorities allege she sold illicit fentanyl pills that are believed to be the cause of a fatal overdose last summer — the same investigation that resulted in an indictment against an Alamo teen earlier this year.

Jianna Coppedge, 19, appeared in court on May 24 to face the charge laid out in a criminal complaint that was unsealed that same day alleging reasonable grounds to believe that she sold fentanyl-laced tablets that resulted in an overdose death in Dublin on July 7, 2022.

The complaint against Coppedge appears to stem from the same police response and investigation that led to a charge in February against Ozymandias Troy Watson, an 18-year-old Alamo resident, which found apparent interactions between the two teens before the overdose death last summer and led to the charges brought against them this year.

Watson appears to be accused of having provided pills to Coppedge that she then sold to the overdose victim, according to court documents.

A Dublin Unified School District spokesperson confirmed that a student by Coppedge's name graduated from Valley High School last year. Watson had been a student at Monte Vista High School in Danville, according to a San Ramon Valley Unified School District spokesperson.

Attorneys listed for Coppedge and Watson have not responded to requests for comment on the separate cases. It is unclear whether

prosecutors in Alameda County have reviewed the investigation for potential local charges related to the underlying death. The victim's identity has not been revealed to date.

The complaint against Coppedge was filed by U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Anthony Guzman, who provides testimony and evidence related to a joint investigation between the administration and Dublin Police Services into the circumstances surrounding the overdose death.

In particular, Guzman argues in the complaint that Coppedge knew the pills in question contained fentanyl and that she knowingly distributed them ahead of the fatal overdose.

The investigation began when Dublin police responded to an unconscious person in his bedroom at his home in Dublin early on July 7, 2022 after a relative called 911, with the victim being pronounced dead at 1:41 a.m. that morning.

Detectives found a white powdery substance in the victim's bedroom along with a container holding two "M30" pills that were found to contain fentanyl upon laboratory analysis by the DEA, according to the federal complaint.

"Based on their training and experience, detectives suspected the victim purchased counterfeit oxycodone pills and ingested them, causing the fatal overdose," Guzman said in the unsealed complaint.

Upon reviewing the victim's cellphone and Instagram account, investigators allegedly found messages via the social media platform between him and an account that was identified as belonging to Coppedge including a conversation that had occurred the day before the overdose death on July 6, 2022.

"Lemme get 4" the victim said in a message at 10:10 p.m. the evening before he was found dead by police, according to Guzman. After negotiating the price and quantity, the victim agreed to meet with the account owner, believed to be Coppedge, with the conversation ending upon the apparent arrival of both at a meeting spot at 11:44 p.m.

Surveillance footage accessed by

law enforcement shows the victim and another man walking toward Coppedge's home on Mariposa Circle, according to Guzman's complaint, before they stop and sit at a nearby playground at 11:44 p.m. Coppedge was then seen walking out of her apartment at 11:45 p.m. and placing something in the victim's outstretched hand at 11:46 p.m., according to Guzman.

"Based on the Instagram messaging conversation, detectives suspect Victim purchased (3) M30 pills each for \$25, totaling \$75," Guzman said in the complaint. "Based on training and experience, detectives know the cost of 'M30' pills varies depending on different regions. Detectives know the average cost of an 'M30' is approximately \$15-20 per pill. Based on training and experience, detectives believe \$25 per pill is a reasonable price in Dublin, CA."

Police then obtained a search warrant for Coppedge's home and Instagram account, and confronted her outside her residence after conducting surveillance on July 9, 2022, during which they found one "M30" pill in a bag she was carrying and eight others in a backpack inside her home, all of which were found to contain fentanyl, according to the special agent.

The evidence provided in the complaint against Coppedge contains parallels with the evidence cited in the complaint against Watson in February, with the complaint against Coppedge highlighting samples of a conversation she had with someone referred to as "OW" in order to obtain pills that were sold to the victim. The complaint against Watson includes samples of an identical exchange with someone referred to as "JC."

In an exchange via Instagram messenger and text message the afternoon of July 6, 2022, Coppedge appears to have a conversation about meeting up to obtain pills from "OW", noting that she had already sold "half today" and is "so far at 580 this week," according to Guzman's complaint.

The complaint against Watson, which was filed on Feb. 10 and unsealed on Feb. 21, lays out a

description of the same initial circumstances that spurred the investigation and complaint involving Coppedge — the DPS response to the July 7 overdose, in which a victim was pronounced dead at the scene and a white powdery substance along with a container holding two "M30" pills was found in his bedroom.

The earlier complaint also details the findings of detectives' search of the victim's cellphone and social media accounts that were obtained on July 8, 2022 in which he corresponds with "JC" via the same Instagram handle alleged to be Coppedge's in the complaint against her.

The same conversation unfolds according to a sample in the complaint against Watson, which begins with the victim sending a message to "JC" via Instagram that says "lemme get 4."

"JC texted Watson, stating: 'got an \$100 in cash' 'ima need to cop sometime before the week cuz I sold half today. Ill lyk whenn then u can grab the money too,'" DEA Special Agent Christine Truong said in the complaint against Watson. "Based on this text message, detectives believe JC was asking Watson for more tablets because she had sold half of what she had."

Upon obtaining a search warrant for Watson's Alamo home on July 13, 2022, detectives found approximately 130 "M30" pills total according to Truong's complaint, which were found to contain fentanyl upon DEA laboratory analysis.

"Based on my training and experience and conversations with experienced agents, the amount of fentanyl recovered from Watson's residence is not consistent with personal use, but for distribution," Truong said in the Feb. 10 complaint.

Coppedge faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, lifetime supervision, and/or up to a \$1 million fine if found guilty. Her case is going through the U.S. Northern District of California Court, with her initial appearance May 24 before Magistrate Judge Kandis Westmore in Oakland.

Watson faces a maximum 20-year prison sentence and \$250,000 fine.

His arraignment had been set for May 24, but was rescheduled for June 23 following a stipulation that was filed on May 23.

Coppedge's case is scheduled for a status conference on June 22.

—Jeanita Lyman

### In other news

• Dublin police confirmed that a man died after sustaining a self-inflicted gunshot wound in the shooting range at an outdoor recreation equipment store in the city last week.

Dublin Police Services were called to Guns, Fishing & Other Stuff on Amador Plaza Road just after 5 p.m. June 6 to ascertain the condition of a possibly suicidal person in the indoor firearms range part of the store, according to Capt. Gurdinder Gosal.

When officers arrived at the scene, they found a man down in one of the shooting lanes inside the store with a self-inflicted gunshot wound, Gosal said. Life-saving measures were performed, but the man — a 35-year-old from Bay Point whose name was not released — was pronounced dead at the store.

"Based on evidence located at the scene and our ongoing investigation, there were no signs of foul play or suspicious circumstances," Gosal said. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of the victim."

—Jeremy Walsh

• A fifth employee of the federal prison in Dublin has been convicted of sexually abusing inmates, the U.S. Department of Justice announced last week.

John Russell Bellhouse, 40, was accused of sex crimes involving inmates from 2018 to 2021 at the Federal Correctional Institute in Dublin and was found guilty by a federal jury on five counts against two female inmates.

Bellhouse, a former corrections officer who used to reside in Pleasanton, was initially charged with sexual abuse of an inmate in February 2022. A federal grand jury issued a superseding indictment on Sept. 29, 2022, charging him with two counts of sexual abuse and three counts of abusive sexual contact. A jury convicted him on all counts.

"As an officer in a federal correction facility, Bellhouse had an obligation to ensure the safety of all the persons serving their sentences," U.S. Attorney Ismail Ramsey said. "Instead, Bellhouse used the power entrusted to him to serve his own corrupt purposes."

Prosecutors have previously convicted four other employees of the Dublin facility for using their power to sexually assault inmates, and others charged with wrongdoing have cases pending.

Bellhouse's sentencing hearing is scheduled for Aug. 30. The former Pleasanton resident faces a maximum sentence of 36 years in prison. He remains out of custody until sentencing, prosecutors said. ■

—Katy St. Clair / Bay City News Service

## POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

### June 11

#### Theft

- 8:56 a.m. on the 8200 block of Moller Ranch Drive
- 2:23 p.m. on the 7300 block of Joshua Circle
- 4:19 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 7:03 p.m., 2800 block of Hopyard Road; shoplifting

#### Burglary

- 8:42 p.m. on the 1000 block of Sycamore Creek Way

### June 10

#### Theft

- 2:03 a.m., 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft
- 9:55 a.m. on the 4700 block of Willow Road

- 1:45 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

- 3:57 p.m., 5900 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; catalytic converter theft

- 5:34 p.m. on the 3800 block of Brockton Drive

- 6:54 p.m. on the 5100 block of Angelico Court

#### Drug violation

- 4:14 p.m. on the 3900 block of Old Santa Rita Road

#### Assault/battery

- 4:33 p.m. on the 3000 block of Bernal Avenue

### June 9

#### Theft

- 8:35 a.m. on the 5500 block of Johnson Drive
- 7:30 p.m., 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

### June 8

#### Fraud

- 9:24 a.m. on the 6700 block of Corte Del Vista

#### Drug violation

- 11:36 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

#### Fraud

- 2:27 p.m. on the 5100 block of Case Avenue

#### Vandalism

- 7:29 p.m. on the 7300 block of Lemonwood Way

#### Theft

- 9:04 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive
- 11:09 p.m. on the 5900 block of Via Del Cielo

### June 7

#### Theft

- 10:22 a.m. on the 3600 block of Woodbine Way



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## GUEST OPINION

By CHERYL COOK-KALLIO

# Council majority acted irresponsibly with our democracy

On June 6, the Pleasanton City Council in a 3-2 vote endorsed a draft proposition put forth by “Our Neighborhood Voices”, even though it was a marked draft, not in final form, and has not been vetted or reviewed by the Attorney General. This is problematic on several fronts.

The proposition, as written, would allow a city council to pass any land use or zoning ordinance in conflict with state law if they deemed the state law not in the best interest of the community. The city ordinance would prevail. If passed, this proposition would become a constitutional amendment.

Let that sit a minute. This proposition would allow a city to nullify a state law.

California proposition procedures do not test the legality of any proposition until it is passed by the voters and then it heads to the courts, costing Californians’ millions.



This is contrary to our system of government. Federalism allows some autonomy but is clear on the hierarchy of power. Cities are part of the state and are subject to state jurisdiction.

Pleasanton should have already learned this difficult lesson once. During my first four years on the city council, we languished in litigation over our voter-approved hard housing cap and Regional Housing Needs Assessment numbers.

Pleasanton lost and it cost us millions of dollars and local control over development. Furthermore, it was found to be discriminatory.

RHNA is a process attempting to balance between the number of jobs in a community and the housing necessary to accommodate those jobs. In general, Pleasanton’s RHNA is high because for years we have significantly more jobs than housing. Many communities face this dilemma. However, Pleasanton has always been excessively out of compliance. The city’s job is to zone for these housing units, not to build them.

Leadership is important, and

we are lacking it in our current council majority. They all have sworn to uphold the national and the state constitution. To endorse this proposition because “we should let the voters decide” as Councilmember Valerie Arkin stated, allows voters to think the council tried to protect local control when in fact they are signing on to what could be very costly litigation, have significant unintended consequences, and is ultimately unconstitutional.

To portray this movement as “grassroots”, as Councilmember Julie Testa suggested, ignores the content on the advocates’ webpage and those who have already endorsed this proposal. It is a list of some of the most affluent communities in the state who want the economic vitality brought by business but don’t want to wrestle with how to house the people who work for those businesses.

It is a case of wanting the

benefits of the fourth-largest economy in the world but not dealing with the accompanying issues. Vice Mayor Jack Balch rightly outlined many of the risks with the proposition and the very real likelihood of unintended consequences it may have.

We are not an island. Our community is intricately tied to our neighbors and our state. When trying to balance our various needs, we should be looking at how we can address these concerns as a city and a region rather than trying to find a way to exempt ourselves from our obligations as a thriving, contributing community. ■

*Editor’s note: Cheryl Cook-Kallio is a former member of the Pleasanton City Council (2006-14) and a retired public school teacher. She is currently serving her first term as the Tri-Valley’s representative on the Alameda County Board of Education.*

## LETTERS

### Parents’ rights symposium in Dublin

Although parents should be able to raise their children as they wish, our state government and most of its public schools have unilaterally decided that children must be taught the tenets of post-modern critical theories, regardless of their parents’ wishes.

Although their names are almost never used, the principles of critical race theory and queer theory (gender studies) are being taught to children, starting in elementary school, and other such theories are being introduced.

These critical theories are anti-American and anti-White and work against the traditional family. They support “equity”, which has been redefined as equality of outcome and which requires a

socialist government to administer. For an example, see the proposed anti-racist constitutional amendment by Ibram X. Kendi.

On Aug. 26, there will be a symposium in Dublin where four distinguished panelists will inform attendees how to resist this destructive ideology-religion, which often is described as “woke”. They will also answer questions.

The four speakers are professor John Yoo (UC Berkeley), professor and author Steven Hayward (Berkeley Law), attorney and mother Erin Friday (our duty group), and attorney and prior school board member Chris Arend (Paso Robles).

Email NLTE-CA@proton.me for more information on tickets and the symposium.

—Midji Rovetta

### What’s your opinion?

Send a Letter to the Editor to [Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:Editor@PleasantonWeekly.com) or put your opinion on Town Square at [www.PleasantonWeekly.com](http://www.PleasantonWeekly.com). Letters must be 250 words or less.

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The Mountain View Voice is an award-winning community news organization covering the vibrant city of Mountain View in the heart of Silicon Valley. The Voice has been honored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association in recent years with multiple awards for reporting and photojournalism. We pride ourselves on providing our readers with insightful, accurate and unbiased news about our diverse community.

As a full-time reporter for the Mountain View Voice, you will be responsible for establishing productive relationships with sources, seeking out stories of interest and importance to our readers, and reporting on breaking news in our circulation area. As part of our collaborative newsroom, you will cover regional stories that are also published in Embarcadero Media’s other Midpeninsula news outlets, the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and the Redwood City Pulse.

The ideal candidate will have a bachelor’s degree, at least one year of professional reporting experience, a thorough knowledge of AP style, excellent communication and organization skills, and be familiar with the Mountain View area. Fluency in written and spoken Spanish is a big plus. The salary range is \$21-\$26/hour, depending on experience.

For more information, go to [tinyurl.com/MVBeatReporter](http://tinyurl.com/MVBeatReporter).



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# Employment

## Project Engineer

Big-D Pacific Builders, L.P. (dba Big-D Construction) seeks Project Engineer (Pleasanton, CA) Under direct supervision of Sr. Project Manager of large licensed general contractor, manage site development projects. Sal range: \$88K/yr to \$117K/yr. Travel up to 100% of time to various unanticipated construction sites throughout CA during project lifecycle. EOE/Protected Veterans/Individuals with Disabilities. Email resume to: careers@big-d.com. Ref: 20230427CA

## DevOps Engineer

DevOps Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. Sal: \$140K. Reference this ad & send resume to HR, OpenVPN 6200 Stoneridge Mall Dr., Ste. 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588 or jobs@openvpn.com

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

## Test Engineer

Test Engineer - Pleasanton, CA. Conduct product evaluations for power electronics, incl inverters, ESS, EVSE & rtd components, frequency converters, motor drives, & generators accord to U.S., Canadian & European compliance stds. Identify, qualify & present solutions based on business & technical reqmts. Evaluate conformance of products to performance stds. Review, plan, conduct, & complete product evaluations. Generate, edit & revise test reports & documentation. Liaise w/ other global labs to ensure consistency & accuracy of methods & interpretations. Bach deg in Electrical or Electronic Engg (or foreign equiv) & 2 yrs of rtd exp evaluating products in accord w/ regulatory stds for product certification reqd, incl Inverters & ESS accord to U.S., Canadian, & European compliance stds. Offered salary ranges from \$100k-105k. Brief domestic & int'l travel reqd. Email resumes to TUV Rheinland of North America, Inc. Attn: careers@us.tuv.com.

## Multiple Positions

Workday, Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in **Pleasanton, CA:**

**M&A Integration Manager (20637.1733)** - Manage cross functional acquisition integration plan, design, and execution when Workday acquires another company or asset. \*Travel Required 10%. Salary: \$248,768 - \$298,900 per year, 40 hours per week.

**Associate Manager, Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) (20637.2008)** - Oversee team member's efforts in coding and deploying product updates to existing Workday customers. Salary: \$189,596 - \$201,600, 40 hours per week.

**Technical Product Manager (TPM-009-J01-11) (TPM-009-J01-12)** - Designs, develops, and manages technical activities for various Workday products ranging from Human Capital Management to Financial Management to determine product definitions and planning through production, release, and end of life. Exp. Incl: Scrum and/or other agile software development methodologies; General purpose programming languages, such as Java or C; Date driven analysis for problem solving; and Product management. Salary: \$149,094 - \$196,000 per year, 40 hours per week.

Workday pay ranges vary based on work location and recruiters can share more during the hiring process. As a part of the total compensation package, this role may be eligible for the Workday Bonus Plan or a role-specific commission/bonus, as well as annual refresh stock grants. Each candidate's compensation offer will be based on multiple factors including, but not limited to, geography, experience, skills, future potential and internal pay parity. For more information regarding Workday's comprehensive benefits, please go to [workday.com/en-us/company/careers/life-at-workday.html](http://workday.com/en-us/company/careers/life-at-workday.html)

Interested applicants submit resumes by mail to: J. Thurston at Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.



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# Sports

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## PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

## Horse racing arrives at fairgrounds this weekend

\$150,000 Pleasanton Mile on July 9 will be richest race in NorCal fair history

If it's June and school is out, it must be time for the Alameda County Fair to take place. And if the fair is going on, it also means it's time for horse racing to come to the Pleasanton track, the oldest one-mile dirt track in the United States.

The fair starts this Friday (June 16) and will run through July 9. Racing will take place Friday through Sunday of each week, along with Tuesday, July 4.

Post-time each day is set for 1:45 p.m., with the Daily Handicapping Seminar beginning each day of racing at 12:30 p.m. on the stage right outside the racing grandstands. I will again be hosting the seminars, accompanied by a variety of guests throughout the fair.

This has the potential to be the biggest race meet in recent history with the addition of what will be known as "Mile Day" at the Fair.

The final day of the meeting — July 9 — will be built around a new stakes race: the \$150,000 Pleasanton Mile. The eight-furlong test for 3-year-olds and up, caps a day that also features the Everett Nevin, a race that showcases top 2-year-old horses from throughout California.

It will be the richest race in the history of Northern California fair racing.

The California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) has been hard at work putting together the 13 days of racing. As can be expected, there is much excitement for Mile Day.

"The community will be proud of this day of racing," said Tom Doutrich, racing secretary for CARF. "Pleasanton deserves it. We would love to get this race graded — we will go through the process to get that done."

The Mile Day will also see TVG — powered by FanDuel — broadcasting live and on site.

There is another new stakes race this year — the Mary Clare Schmitt Oaks — that will honor Clare Schmitt, who passed away earlier this year. Schmitt, along with her husband George, were iconic players in not just horse racing in Pleasanton but throughout California as breeders, owners and horse racing overall.



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

Horse racing action is back at the Alameda County Fair between June 16 and July 9.

The other stakes are the She's a Tiger (June 24) and the Oak Tree Sprint (July 1).

While there are only three days of racing each week with the addition of July 4 the final week, Doutrich and the CARF team are working hard on the quality of horses.

"There are not as many horses as there used to be, but less is more right now," Doutrich said.

## BUSC graduates

The Ballistic United Soccer Club announced that 26 players from their competitive teams recently graduated from high school and will be attending college.

In addition, three of the players were National Merit Semifinalists.

Academic excellence is a cornerstone of the Ballistic developmental plan, making the players not just better in soccer, but better people as well. Ballistic is working to develop future leaders to benefit their communities.

BUSC's core values of integrity, accountability, perseverance, sportsmanship and aspiration are reinforced both on the field of play,

and off the field.

The players are Allen Zhou, Fernando Cavazos, Sam Montoya, Jack Lingle, Rohan Sethna, Razin Chadrey, Branden Misquita, Faheem Naik, Andy McMasters, Ezra Lynch, Aarnav Reddy, Arvind Saravanakumar, Brandon Correia, Dante Ruiz, David Wright, Elias Roust, Ethan Reeves, Fionn Conway, Gabriel Hersch, Isaac Light, Kalyan Manickaraja, Kishore Saravanakumar, Mick Majer, Nate Fluker and Ryan Wu.

Light, Wu and Arvind Saravanakumar were the three players selected as the National Merit Semifinalists.

The list of colleges the players will be attending include CSU San Marcos, CSU Chico, Colorado State, Emory, Indiana, Las Positas, Loyola Marymount, Pepperdine, Santa Clara, Santa Barbara City, Stony Brook, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Barbara, UC Santa Cruz, Michigan, Oregon and Tennessee. ■

*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](mailto:acesmag@aol.com).*

## Entertainment

**MATILDA THE MUSICAL** CYT Tri-Valley presents Tony Award-winning Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical*, which tells the inspiring story of a special little girl with an extraordinary imagination. Now through June 18. Tickets \$26.25. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION AT THE BANKHEAD PLAZA** Juneteenth commemorates the liberation of the last slaves in Texas, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation abolished slavery in the Confederate States in 1863. This free event will be observed with a local celebration, including music, art, drumming, singing, dancing and musical performances. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., June 17.

**MIDNIGHT FLYER: A TRIBUTE TO THE EAGLES** Audiences and critics alike love the Midnight Flyer band's energy and spot-on recreation of The Eagles music. 8 p.m., June 17. Tickets \$20-\$25. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**PREVIEW OF MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** Livermore Public Library invites the community to attend a free preview of SPARC's interactive performance of a shortened version of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Led by a talented cast of acting apprentices this event will transport audience members to a world where quick wit and clever wordplay reign supreme. 7-8 p.m., June 20. Civic Center Library.

**DUBLIN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES** Join for the eight-week Summer Concert Series at Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater during the Dublin Farmers' Market. Local food vendors will be onsite. 6-8 p.m., June 22. Salvage Title, rock covers.

**SHAKESPEARE IN THE VINEYARD** *Silent Sky*, the true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt, explores a woman's place in society during a time of

immense scientific and heart-bound discoveries, with music and math bursting forth onstage. June 22-25; June 29-July 2, July 7-9. Darcie Kent Vineyards. Visit [sparctheater.org/shakespeareinthevineyard](http://sparctheater.org/shakespeareinthevineyard).

**OAKLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR** Celebrate Juneteenth with the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and experience the music that brings resiliency, joy, and strength to the African American community. 8 p.m., June 23. Tickets \$22-\$30. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org).

**COMEDY UNCORKED** Headliner Mickey Joseph is a Las Vegas-based comedian, musician, writer and actor. Joining him are Carla Clay, Faith Alpher, and Chelsea Bearce. A portion of the proceeds benefits Open Heart Kitchen. 5:30-10 p.m., June 24. Visit [retzlaffvineyards.com](http://retzlaffvineyards.com).

**KELLY BRANDEBURG: A TRIBUTE TO THE SONGS OF BARBRA STREISAND** Kelly's tribute to the life and career of the legendary Barbra Streisand is a journey from the very beginning of Streisand's career as a cabaret singer in New York City to her starring roles on Broadway to her critically acclaimed roles in Hollywood films. 8 p.m., June 24. Tickets \$20-\$24. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**OPERA IN THE VINEYARD** Join Livermore Valley Opera for a truly unforgettable musical experience listening to beautiful voices soar across Garre Vineyard and Winery. This stunning location creates an inviting backdrop for a relaxed, casual event. 5 p.m., June 25. Visit [livermorevalleyopera.com](http://livermorevalleyopera.com).

**DON LEWIS AND THE LIVE ELECTRONIC ORCHESTRA - A TRIBUTE** The Black Music Month tribute ends with this free screening of the documentary chronicling Don Lewis' life, career and contributions to the music industry. This screening is accompanied by a panel discussion. 7 p.m., June 28. Pre-registration required. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

**JAZZ IN JULY** Jazz in July, an annual Livermore tradition, takes over the Civic Center Library with programs by top jazz artists. The programs are free with no reservations required. The Duo, 2 p.m., July 2. Storytime Room, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

**A HIGH SCHOOL CABARET Blast From the Past** revisits favorites from the dozens of shows cabaret cast members either saw growing up or were a part of themselves is this evening of nostalgia and beautiful work spanning ten years of Firehouse productions. 7:30 p.m., July 7. Tickets \$10. Visit [firehousearts.org](http://firehousearts.org).

## Talks

**UNCLE JER'S BEES** Join for a magical introduction to the lives of bees as Uncle Jer's Bee Show returns to the Dublin Library for a special presentation with real live bees. 4-5 p.m., June 22.

**CRUISING DOWN MEMORY LANE** Join author Donna Kamp McMillion and a few "old timers" from the book as they talk about their recollections of Pleasanton in the 50's. 1 p.m., June 23. Pleasanton Senior Center.

**WORKSHOP TO EMBRACE UNIQUE CULTURE** Senait Mesfin Piccigallo, author of "You're in America-Now What? 7 Steps to Integrate with Ease and Joy", will facilitate an interactive workshop designed to help immigrants learn to embrace their unique culture while integrating into the United States. 2 p.m., June 25. Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

**NORCAL BATS** Join for a special presentation all about bats where NorCal Bats will share an informative PowerPoint presentation and discuss the harmful myths that surround these animals. 11 a.m.-12 p.m., June 28. Dublin Library.

**COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH LISA SEE** In collaboration with Towne Center Books join for coffee and conversation with Lisa See, author of *Lady Tan's Circle of Women*. 11 a.m.-12 p.m., June 26. Pleasanton Library.

**TOUR OF DUBLIN HERITAGE PARK AND MUSEUMS** If interested in learning about local history take a guided tour of Dublin Heritage Park and Museums where participants will have the opportunity to get an inside look at Dublin's historic buildings and Pioneer Cemetery and hear stories of how Dublin began. 5:30 p.m., July 6. Cost \$5. Visit [dublin.ca.gov](http://dublin.ca.gov). 6600 Donlon Way.

**MYSTERY MOVIE AND REVIEW AT THE VINE** Join for a surprise movie at the Vine Cinema and after the show join for appetizers and no-host drinks at Zephyr Grill and Bar to discuss the movie and review the film. 1-4:30 p.m., July 6. \$20R/\$22NR. Call 925-373-5700.

**HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS** Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets in-person and virtually

## PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

### Meet Minnie

Minnie is an adorable, sweet, compact-size cutie. She weighs only 9 pounds and has a beautiful, shiny black coat, white chest and toes, and a curly tail. Her large, dewy eyes and endearing smile will grab your heart when you meet her and see what a gentle, loving soul she is. Her favorite activities are cuddling, playing with toys, and going for walks. She is available for adoption through Tri-Valley Animal Rescue; visit [tvar.org](http://tvar.org).

via Zoom. Overcome fear of speaking in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Visit [haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org](http://haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org).

## Exhibits

**FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW** Blackhawk Museum hosts the 2nd annual Jon Snyder Memorial Father's Day Car Show. Celebrate in style with a thrilling car show that's fun for the whole family. 8 a.m.-2 p.m., June 18. Visit [blackhawkmuseum.org](http://blackhawkmuseum.org).

**MUSEUM ON MAIN EXHIBIT** The exhibit "On the Job: The Changing World of Work in the Valley and Beyond" will bring to light the who, what, where, why and how of Pleasanton and the Valley at work, and how that experience fits into the nation's history. May 31-July 8. For more information visit [museumonmain.org](http://museumonmain.org).

**ROCK N' ROLL EXHIBIT** An exhibit featuring guitars, album covers, photography and more, at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater. Take a visual tour of the history of rock 'n' roll, now through July 9. Free 1-5 p.m., Thursdays-Sundays.

## Fairs & Festivals

**2023 ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR** Themed "Summer Vibes", the Alameda County Fair runs from June 16-July 9. Filled with summertime favorites including carnival rides and games, classic fair food and drinks, vendor booths, arts and culinary exhibitions, livestock displays and more. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](http://alamedacountyfair.com).

**LIVERMORE VALLEY VINTNERS COLLECTIVE** Livermore Valley Vintners Collective is a group of highly motivated and creative winemakers residing in the Livermore Valley driven by collaboration and inspiration. Come out to taste the 2020 vintage of the LVVC project. 1 p.m., June 24. Tickets \$35-\$40. Visit [livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org). Bankhead Theater Lobby.

**COMMUNITY FIREWORKS IN LIVERMORE** The Salute to the 4th of July Community Fireworks Show takes place at 3200 Robertson

Park Road with gates opening at 4 p.m.-8:30 p.m. The fireworks show will begin at 9:30 p.m. and last 20 minutes. For parking and more information visit [livermoredowntown.com](http://livermoredowntown.com).

## Outdoor Movies

**PICNIC FLIX MOVIE SERIES** The City of Dublin's free outdoor movie series will be rotated through three different parks in Dublin. Movies begin at dusk and guests are encouraged to bring low-back chairs and/or blankets and dress warmly. No pets are allowed. June 23, DC League of Super-Pets (PG) at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway.

**MOVIE IN THE PARK** Bring blankets and join under the stars at this free family event to watch the movie "Rookie of the Year". June 24. 7 p.m. games and activities, movie begins at 8:45 p.m. Max Baer Park, 1310 Murdell Lane, Livermore.

**MOVIES IN THE PARK** Grab a picnic dinner, blanket and low beach chairs to enjoy family film favorites. Movies are free and begin at dusk. Amador Valley Community Park, 4455 Black Ave. June 29, Aladdin.

## 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).

**LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS' MARKET** The Livermore Thursday Farmers' Market is 4-8 p.m., now through Oct. 12. Rain or shine. 2155 3rd St.

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

**DUBLIN FARMERS' MARKET** The Dublin Farmers' Market is Thursdays, 4-8 p.m., through Sept. 28. 4201 Central Pkwy.

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

## TAKE US ALONG



**The first free town:** Jaymes Blair and Punal Bhavsar went on a week vacation to Colombia, where they visited the first free town for Africans in the Americas, founded by those escaping slavery in the 1600s. The village is still inhabited and has preserved customs and languages from Africa.

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

# CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

## Outdoors

**CREEK HIKE AT SYCAMORE GROVE PARK** See how the park has changed due to the winter’s weather and massive rains on this walk along the creek. Wear sturdy shoes. 9 a.m., June 18. Call 925-373-5700.

**PUBLIC MEETING AT LESTER J. KNOTT PARK** The purpose of the meeting is for Livermore citizens to get an update on current LARPD projects and provide feedback or suggestions on any local park issues. 6 p.m., June 21. 655 N Mines Rd.

**LET’S TALK BEARS** Join an LARPD Ranger to cover a short history of bears in California and a few of their cousins around the world. 10-11 a.m., June 24. Sycamore Grove Park Amphitheater.

**PICKLEBALL AT PLEASANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL** Pickleball is a fast, fun, social sport and great exercise for

all ages and athletic backgrounds, now offered through Lifetime Tennis at Pleasanton Middle School. For more information visit [lifetimedactivities.com/pleasanton/pickleball](http://lifetimedactivities.com/pleasanton/pickleball).

**BOCCE IN PLEASANTON** Enjoy a game of Bocce on recently renovated courts offered through Lifetime Tennis at Centennial Park. For more information visit [lifetimedactivities.com/pleasanton/activities/bocce](http://lifetimedactivities.com/pleasanton/activities/bocce).

## Teens

**DIY TOTE OR POUCH FOR TEENS** Teens 13-19 are invited to come create a custom tote bag or zipper pouch with sharpies or fabric markers. Supplies will be provided. 2-3 p.m., June 21. No registration needed, but space is limited. Dublin Library.

**DEBATE LIKE A PHILOSOPHER** Taught by a DHS sophomore and Las Positas Philosophy Honors member, along with a Philosophy major and entrepreneur, the Debate Like a Philosopher program

will encourage your child to develop their personal ethical beliefs. 2-3:30 p.m., June 25. Dublin Library.

## Veterans

**VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL OUTREACH** The Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System’s mobile medical outreach van will be at the Livermore Civic Center Library parking lot to provide examinations, consultations and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., June 22. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

## Seniors

**SENIOR (50+) POP UP TRIP** Board a luxury air-conditioned motorcoach to the Red Hawk Casino in Placerville, California’s historic gold rush territory, for gaming, slot machine play and a full buffet lunch. The trip also includes \$15 free slot play and \$5 food points from Verona’s Coffeehouse. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., June 22. Robert Livermore

Community Center. Call 925-373-5763 to register.

**PLEASANTON VIP TRAVEL** The Pleasanton VIP Travel office is located at the Pleasanton Senior Center behind the front desk open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

**PLEASANTON RIDES** Pleasanton Rides is door-to-door, shared-ride transportation serving eligible Pleasanton Seniors with transportation needs throughout Pleasanton and to select destinations in the Tri-Valley. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. For reservations and information, call 925-398-1045 or visit [blacktietrans.com/more-info](http://blacktietrans.com/more-info).

**TECH TUTORING AT THE SENIOR CENTER** One hour, one-on-one tutoring sessions are available at the Pleasanton Senior Center, Monday 11 a.m. Wednesday 9 & 10 a.m. \$2.50R/\$3NR. Call 925-931-5365.

**FREE SENIOR LUNCHE (60+)** The Open Heart Kitchen Senior Meal Program addresses the nutritional gap of those over the age of 60. Meals are served in the Main Hall

of the Pleasanton Senior Center Monday through Friday from 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for information.

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

## Support

**HOT MEALS FREE OF CHARGE** Open Heart Kitchen serves free hot meals to anyone who is struggling to make ends meet. Monday-Friday, 1-3 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Visit [openheartkitchen.org](http://openheartkitchen.org).

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

**GENERAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS** Hope Hospice offers free zoom General Grief Support Group services. Register in advance by phone at 925-829-8770. 6-7:30 p.m., Mondays. May 8-June 26.

# Public Notices

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File No.: 598384  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) HACIENDA SCHOOL, 2.) EMERSON MONTESSORI, 3.) EMERSON SCHOOL, 4.) EMERSON MONTESSORI SCHOOL, 5.) HACIENDA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 6.) HEADSUP! MONTESSORI, 7.) HEADSUP! MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL, 8.) HEADSUP! CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 9.) WRITE NOW!, 10.) EARLY LEARNING INSTITUTE, located at 4671 CHABOT DRIVE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
EARLY LEARNING INSTITUTE  
2800 W. BAYSHORE ROAD  
PALO ALTO, CA 94303  
CALIFORNIA  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/30/1990  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 02 2023. (PLW Jun 16, 23, 30 and Jul 7, 2023)

WHISPER ANALYTICS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 598481  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Whisper Analytics, located at 6363 Christie Ave Apt 714 Emeryville, CA 94608-1918, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
ERIC GHARAKHANIAN  
6363 Christie Ave Apt 714  
Emeryville, CA 94608  
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 June 07 2023. (PLW Jun 16, 23, 30 and Jul 7, 2023)

BREEZE DENTAL GROUP  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 598177  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Breeze dental group, located at 4430 Willow Rd, Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
SARA ANJUM DDS INC  
4430 Willow Rd, Suite E

Pleasanton, CA 94588  
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 May 24 2023. (PLW Jun 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2023)

SQUEAKY GREEN CLEANING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 598390  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Squeaky Green Cleaning, located at 7530 Sutton lane , Dublin CA 94568, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
DIAZ & ANDRADE ENTERPRISES, INC  
7530 SUTTON LANE  
DUBLIN, CA 94568  
CALIFORNIA  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/01/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on June 02 2023. (PLW Jun 16, 23, 30 and Jul 7, 2023)

TRANFORMEZ HARDWOOD FLOORS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597122  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Tranformez Hardwood Floors, located at 19263 Hathaway Avenue, Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
FRANCISCO J GOMEZ  
19263 Hathaway Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94541  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 13 2023. (PLW May 26, Jun 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

TK ART  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597887  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) TK ART, located at 3867 Florian St. Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
TAEYEON KIM  
3867 Florian St.  
Pleasanton, CA 94588  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/14/2023  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on May 15 2023. (PLW May 26, Jun 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

ROSENBLATT ADVISORS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 598008  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Rosenblatt Advisors, located at 3726 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda. This business is conducted by: a Corporation.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
PREMIERE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS, INC.  
3726 Castro Valley Blvd.  
Castro Valley, CA 94546  
California  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/30/2013  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on May 17 2023. (PLW Jun 16, 23, 30 and Jul 7, 2023)

PAMPERED NAILS AND SPA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 597610  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Pampered Nails and Spa, located at 6900 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
LANH NGUYEN  
1118 Eureka Lane #6  
Concord, CA 94520  
Registrant has not yet commenced transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on May 02 2023. (PLW May 26, Jun 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA  
Case No.: 23CV033725  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner: Sonja Kay Brown filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
SONJA KAY BROWN to SONJA KAY KISSMAN-BROWN  
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: 06/20/2023, 09:30 am, Civil, Dept 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221Oak St, 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: 05/19/2023  
Charles A. Smiley  
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT  
(PLW May 26, Jun 2, 9 and 16, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
SANGEETH SANKARAN  
Case No.: RP23142417  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of SANGEETH SANKARAN.  
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: MOHAN SUBRAMANIAN in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.  
The Petition for Probate requests that: MOHAN SUBRAMANIAN 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 July 03 2023 at 9:45 AM in Dept. 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.  
Petitioner in Pro Per:  
Michael Alexander Desrosiers  
100 Kirkcrest Court  
Alamo, CA 94507  
925-984-1841  
(PLW Jun 9, 16 and 23, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
ALICE MARIE DESROSIERS  
Case No.: RP23142063  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ALICE MARIE DESROSIERS.  
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: MICHAEL ALEXANDER DESROSIERS in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.  
The Petition for Probate requests that: MICHAEL ALEXANDER DESROSIERS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
THE PETITION requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. 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 June 26 2023 at 9:45am in Dept. 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.  
Petitioner in Pro Per:  
Michael Alexander Desrosiers  
100 Kirkcrest Court  
Alamo, CA 94507  
925-984-1841  
(PLW Jun 9, 16 and 23, 2023)

Place a legal notice at  
[PleasantonWeekly.com/legal\\_notices/](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/)

## A break for renters? California considers reining in high security deposits

Bill would limit deposits to one month's rent, regardless of whether unit is furnished or not

BY ALEJANDRA REYES-VELARDE / CALMATTERS

Most renters know securing housing isn't as simple as finding the perfect place.

California's renters must save up thousands of dollars to provide security deposits that can legally be as much as two months' rent, or three months' for furnished units.

Add in the requirement that renters put up the first month's rent before they can move in and low-income families are most likely to give up hope of finding a home.

New local and statewide laws could change that.

Palo Alto city leaders on June 5 agreed to put a cap on security deposits as part of a broader work plan that the City Council has been implementing over the past two years to assist local renters, who make up roughly 47% of the city's population. Under the new law, security deposits for unfurnished apartments will now be limited to 150% of the monthly rent.

At the state level, the State Assembly on May 22 also passed a proposal aimed at capping security deposits.

Assembly Bill 12 would limit security deposits to one month's rent, regardless of whether a unit is furnished or not. If the bill passes and gets Gov. Gavin Newsom's signature, California could become the 12th state to limit security deposits.

"Security deposits present barriers for people to move into apartments, which can lead them to stay in apartments (and) in homes that are too small, crowded or even unsafe," said Matt Haney (D-San Francisco), who authored the bill. "In other cases, people take on debt or financial burden that leaves them unable to afford other necessities."

Haney said the bill has attracted widespread support in the Assembly, including from lawmakers who are landlords as well as labor organizations representing teachers, nurses and grocery store workers.

Assemblymember Diane Dixon, a Republican from Newport Beach, was among the Nos in the 53-14 vote. She cited concern about the bill's potential to reduce the housing supply.

"The more we over-regulate people's ability to offer a successful product, the scarcer it will become," she said in a statement. "Landlords charge security deposits to cover potential damages and any unused funds are returned to the renter."

### Like a downpayment

Haney said the issue caught his attention when a janitor in his district described living with his wife and three children in a one-bedroom apartment.

"He wanted to move into a larger unit so his kids didn't have to sleep in the same room as him and his wife," Haney said. "He said he could afford the rent, but he couldn't afford the deposit and first month's rent to move in. Unfortunately that's not an uncommon situation."

In California, the median rent for a two-bedroom apartment is \$2,538 and for a

three-bedroom home is \$3,795 according to Zillow. For a \$3,000-a-month unfurnished unit, a landlord can charge as much as \$9,000 for a security deposit and the first month's rent.

"People are being asked to pay the equivalent of the down payment of a home in many parts of the country just to move in," Haney said. "It's really untenable."

Tina Rosales, housing attorney and policy advocate with the Western Center on Law & Poverty, said the bill could help fight homelessness.

She came across a San Francisco apartment that called for \$10,000 up front, including a security deposit, first month's rent and fees.

"That's a lot of money for anybody," she said, "but especially for low-wage workers, and particularly for Black, Latin and

indigenous households. No one can afford market rate housing, plus first, last and two months of security deposits, on top of other excessive fees landlords are permitted to charge."

### Alternatives to security deposits

Debra Carlton, spokesperson for the California Apartment Association, said the landlord group is disappointed that Haney did not consider alternatives.

"The vote on the bill came earlier than we thought, and we had hoped that he would work with us to find perhaps a different solution, but obviously that didn't happen," she said.

Carlton said security deposits are important because they allow landlords to pay to repair damage to units. And, should an

eviction be necessary, deposits help landlords cover those costs. The average court eviction can take as long as six months and cost an average of \$10,000, the association said.

Carlton suggested tenants participate in insurance or bond programs, which could help cover potential damages, like security deposits.

She added that the bill could force landlords to increase rents and become stricter when vetting tenants, ultimately making it harder for tenants to find housing.

Haney said his staff met with the California Apartment Association and he is open to talking with them, but he believes the limits are necessary.

He said he would consider amending the bill to exempt homeowners who rent out a single room or a guest house. ■

## OPEN HOMES

### PLEASANTON

<b>340 Abbie Street</b>	<b>\$1,049,000</b>
Sat 12:00-4:00/Sun 11:00-2:00	3BD/1BA
Investment Real Estate	925-963-0569
<b>4533 Winter Court</b>	<b>\$1,968,000</b>
Sat 12:00-4:00 11:00-2:00	3BD/2.5BA
Investment Real Estate	925-963-0569
<b>749 East Angela Street</b>	<b>\$1,588,000</b>
Sat 12:00-4:00/Sun 11:00-2:00	3BD/2BA
Investment Real Estate	925-963-0569
<b>3314 Prairie Drive</b>	<b>\$2,475,000</b>
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00	4BD/3BA
Elation Real Estate	925-200-0202

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).  
Agents: Submit open homes at  
[PleasantonWeekly.com/real\\_estate](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate)

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (May 5-12)

**Total sales reported:** 18  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$510,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,400,000  
**Average sales reported:** 1,370,166

### Livermore (May 5-12)

**Total sales reported:** 23  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$587,500  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,480,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,072,804

### Dublin (May 5-12)

**Total sales reported:** 16  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$705,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,250,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,393,312

### Sunol (May 5-12)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$1,075,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,075,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,075,000

### San Ramon (May 8-12)

**Total sales reported:** 13  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$730,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,929,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,665,000

Source: California REsource

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during May 5-12 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin.

### Pleasanton

- 6077 Allbrook Circle** Smith Trust to M. & S. Khan for \$1,415,000
  - 3937 Blacow Court** Blok Trust to S. & N. Ramegowda for \$1,580,000
  - 1858 Brooktree Way** E. Kinyon to A. & S. Karikalan for \$1,795,000
  - 7855 Canyon Meadow Circle #E** S. Hufford to L. Rivas for \$510,000
  - 4605 Cochise Court** Reed Living Trust to R. & S. Pandit for \$752,000
  - 8160 Ensenada Drive #2** E. Nidick to D. & H. Wo for \$530,000
  - 1975 Foxswallow Circle** J. Chua to Gopal Living Trust for \$1,852,000
  - 42 Golf Road** Maslana Living Trust to D. & C. Cheng for \$3,400,000
  - 8130 Mountain View Drive #A** Nagarajan Trust to Zawoyki Trust for \$675,000
  - 3111 Persimmon Circle** Lopez Living Trust to S. & P. Ranjan for \$1,370,000
  - 772 Saint John Circle** Rodriguez Trust to S. & A. Ruhela for \$1,831,000
  - 5451 Springdale Avenue** Ks 2005 Inter-Vivos Trust to J. & S. Shin for \$1,158,000
  - 1153 Tiffany Lane** Sozzi Living Trust to D. & X. Chen for \$1,175,000
  - 293 Trenton Circle** Zuniga Trust to K. & G. Golegaonkar for \$1,430,000
  - 1547 Trimmingham Drive** Ratto Trust to Redwood Holdings LLC for \$880,000
  - 1156 Wenig Court** Melendez Trust to J. & E. Yoon for \$1,910,000
  - 3636 Woodbine Way** S. Kona to B. & V. Soni for \$925,000
- ### Livermore
- 2410 2nd Street** M. Isenburg to C. & K. Vaughan for \$587,500
  - 1773 6th Street** M. & J. Gerow to L. Bountis for \$1,125,000
  - 478 Alice Way** Golden Trust to T. & C. Grider for \$1,160,000
  - 333 Basswood Common #13** G. & M. Miller to G. & J. Manawatao for \$810,000
  - 166 Bluebird Avenue** Garcia Living Trust to A. & R. Gutierrez for \$715,000
  - 324 Cambridge Court** Pipes Family Trust to M. & T. Hsu for \$1,161,000
  - 831 Cherokee Drive** J. Collins to R. & A. Pillai for \$1,030,000
  - 578 Colusa Way** Ventura 2022 Family Trust to K. & P. Stewart for \$1,050,000

- 4047 Compton Court** M. Holback to L. & C. Sawyer for \$1,140,000
- 502 Escondido Circle** R. Silicon to I. Tran for \$1,590,000
- 275 Estates Street** Davies Trust to W. & J. Palmer for \$970,000
- 244 Garden Common** Vanschoonenberg Trust to L. Rodriguez for \$710,000
- 454 Humboldt Way** E. & Y. Kim to A. & P. Starokadomsky for \$1,000,000
- 786 Jefferson Avenue** S. Ashby to A. & S. Collier for \$936,000
- 54 Meritage Common #106** Stimson Trust to A. Tran for \$920,000
- 910 Orion Way** Vivier Trust to S. & I. Ayad for \$1,510,000
- 1260 North P Street** J. & D. Brannon to J. & B. Esparza for \$830,000
- 713 Redbud Drive** M. & M. Evans to Ghaffari Trust for \$1,050,000
- 468 Selby Lane** W. Chan to U. Solanki for \$1,035,000
- 2325 Sheffield Drive** S. & J. Lourdeaux to M. & S. Grace for \$2,480,000
- 5749 Singing Hills Avenue** S. & M. Karaniuk to C. & B. Davis for \$965,000
- 2295 Spyglass Hills Road** S. & C. Woll to J. & S. Whyte for \$1,040,000
- 5489 Wisteria Way** D. & J. Szilagyi to P. & S. Prabhu for \$860,000

### Dublin

- 6652 Adare Lane** S. Nanduri to E. & S. Miry for \$1,180,000
- 5560 Barrel Court** A. Joshi to P. & S. Haiderzada for \$1,070,000
- 8892 Bellina Commons** Oetinger Living Trust to A. David for \$850,000
- 11719 Corto Court** Ramer Trust to R. & S. Gupta for \$1,395,000.00
- 4516 Fabriano Place** K. & C. Carmichael to S. & T. Kim for \$1,800,000
- 5728 Kemper Place #401** Berger Living Trust to A. & A. Jaya for \$1,330,000
- 6602 South Mariposa Lane** Y. Seo to R. & K. Shenoy for \$1,057,000
- 7505 Mindy Mae Lane** S. Ramani to D. & Y. Vempati for \$2,110,000

Editor's note: The full list of Home Sales reported in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and San Ramon during this period can be found with the online version of this story at [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com).

Source: California REsource

# Focusing on what's important

Real estate isn't just about houses.  
It's about *people*.



We are committed to maximum exposure for every one of our listings and do not undermine their value through self-interested “private” listing strategies.

We advise clients on the benefits of taking listings public to ensure maximum exposure and opportunity.

Our agents strive to counsel our clients against bias so all parties experience transparent and equitable attention throughout each and every step of the process.

sereno

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EAST BAY • SF PENINSULA • SILICON VALLEY • SANTA CRUZ • TAHOE • SIERRA FOOTHILLS • CENTRAL COAST

DRE 02101181

JUST LISTED — OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 6/17 & SUNDAY 6/18 FROM 1-4



### 3591 Crespi Court, Pleasanton

5 BR | 4.5 BA | 4,158 SF | 1.1 Acres

The home's private views are one of a kind. | Presented at \$3,500,000

One bedroom and a full bath on the main level.

The master suite offers amazing views from dawn till night. It's bathroom boasts a expansive step-in shower & a Sauna. Enjoy a visit to view more of the homes designer touches.



### 2280 Merlot Lane, Livermore

4 BR | 3.5 BA  
3,940 SF

Sold for  
\$2,150,000



JUST LISTED  
OPEN HOUSE  
SAT 6/17 & SUN 6/18 FROM 1-4



2149 ARROYO CT #3, Pleasanton  
Townhouse  
2 BR | 1 BA | 903 SF

PENDING



1776 Harvest Rd., Pleasanton  
4 BR | 1,675 SF | Presented at \$1,600,000

## Considering Buying or Selling ?

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

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

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# COMPASS

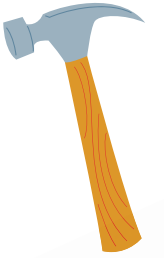


# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



**OPEN HOUSE**  
Friday 10am-1pm  
Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

### 3261 Novara Way, Ruby Hill

5 Bedrooms | 6.5 Bathrooms | 6,100 Square Feet | .58 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$4,800,000



**OPEN HOUSE**  
Friday 10am-1pm  
Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

### 6577 Stanton Court, Pleasanton

4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Bathrooms | 2,500 Square Feet | .30 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$1,949,000

### Steve Venema's Famous Brisket Recipe!

#### INGREDIENTS:

- One 10-12 lb. brisket
- 1 cup coarsely ground pepper
- 1 cup non-iodized salt
- ¼ cup granulated garlic
- ¼ cup onion powder
- ¼ cup paprika

Mix the rub ingredients in a large bowl. This mix will make more than you need for one brisket; store the remainder in an airtight container.

Trim the excess fat from the brisket. Trim the fat off the bottom of the brisket leaving only ¼ in fat. Apply rub to all sides of the meat. Cover the brisket and place in the refrigerator to marinate overnight.

Set the EGG for indirect cooking with the convEGGtor at 250°F. Place the brisket on the grid, fat-side down. Fat-side up is fine if that is your preference. When the meat reaches an internal temperature of 160°F, double wrap the brisket in non-waxed butcher paper or aluminum foil. The bark will have formed nicely by this point.

Continue to smoke the brisket until the meat is "probe tender," Each piece of meat is different but this will likely be at an internal temperature of between 200-202°F. Remove the brisket from the EGG, wrap in a towel and place in a cooler for at least one hour. This will allow the juices to re-distribute in the meat. Unwrap the brisket and slice against the grain.

*enjoy*



**NEW PRICE**

1976 Via Di Salerno, Ruby Hill  
Offered at \$3,950,000



**NEW PRICE**

1147 Mataro Court, Pleasanton  
Offered at \$2,195,000



**PENDING**  
\$864 Price Per Square Foot!

1904 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill  
Multiple Offers



**JUST SOLD**  
Represented Buyer

3282 Melanie Circle, Pleasanton  
Negotiated Best Offer! Sold for \$1,955,000



**JUST SOLD**  
\$822 Price Per Square Foot!

42 Golf Road, Castlewood  
Multiple Offers, Sold for \$3,400,000,



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