

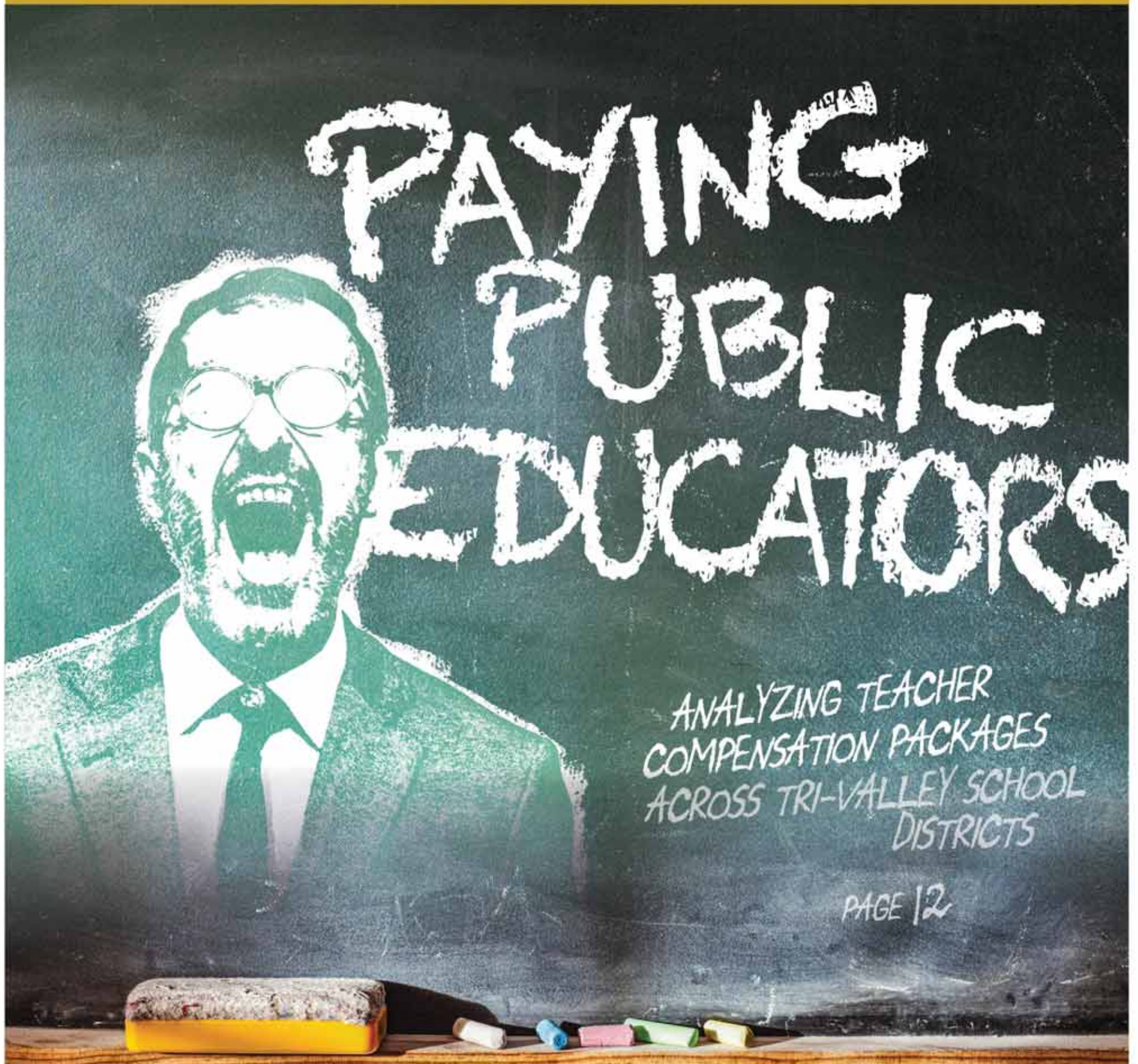
Pleasanton Weekly

Being funny
never gets old

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— First Place, Arts and Entertainment Coverage

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Kate Bradshaw's first-person hiking writing is deliciously fresh and funny. The expert guide at the end is welcomed and thorough. The idea itself is a home-run as we expanded our COVID cocoons. Thanks, Kate for the fun read and photos.

— First Place, Feature Story

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH



JEFFREY CODORI / COLLECTION OF JUDITH HARGRAVE COLEMAN

Pleasanton on film

The headline did its job, grabbing my attention right away: "Pleasanton in the Movies".

Within a Museum on Main monthly email newsletter this summer was a poster promoting the programming of a fellow historical center just a few miles to the south in Fremont.

The Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum regularly screens films from the early days of American cinema, particularly silent movies whose productions took place in the Bay Area. And twice this month its Edison Theater was hosting showings of movies with scenes shot in Pleasanton.

The final one is coming up this Sunday, 1918's "Little Orphan Annie" starring Colleen Moore as part of the museum's weekend-long "Broncho Billy & Friends Silent Film Festival".

I've always been partial to silent movies, shorts and features, no doubt helped by specific exposure to many in the silent film course I took at American University.

Silent cinema may seem like a niche genre, often discarded as dull or dated, but the films can be incredibly fascinating to watch. Of course, many need to be consumed with a grain of salt for obvious social shortcomings, but even those can help show how the industry has evolved.

For the film buff, a silent movie screening can be a rare treat these days, especially in a setting like the Edison Theater, where they are often accompanied by live piano music just like they would have been a century before.

"It gives a window to the past, historically speaking, but I also think they are entertaining," David Kiehn, historian and co-founder

of the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, told me by email ahead of this weekend's film festival. "It shows how modern films are more connected than one might assume to the early days of the medium in terms of quality and storytelling."

The schedule is certainly full for these three days.

A pre-festival "Silent San Francisco Walking Tour" in the afternoon precedes the opening night film, "Salomy Jane", a dramatic Western filmed in Marin, at 7:30 p.m. this Friday (Sept. 29).

On Saturday, there will be a walking tour of Niles or a screening of the two-reel Western filmed in Niles in 2013 by the museum "Broncho Billy and the Bandit's Secret" to choose from at 11 a.m. Then the 2017 documentary "Beyond the Bolex" at 1 p.m., a collection of five shorts from the 1910s by Essanay Film Co. at 3:30 p.m., and the 1925 feature "The Last Edition" shot in San Francisco at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday will see programs "The Blooming of Color Home Movies: The California Nursery in Lenticular Kodacolor" at 10:30 a.m. and "The Miles Brothers Story" at 12:30 p.m.

Then "Little Orphan Annie" (lobby card shown above) at 2 p.m., a film shot in Pleasanton by Selig Polyscope Co., as restored at 35mm by Eric Grayson. Greg Pane will provide piano accompaniment.

"Adversity in young Annie's life leads to strange fantastical imaginings which she conveys to other 'orphans' as cautionary tales. Adapted from the poem 'Little Orphan Annie' and short story 'Where Is Mary Alice Smith?' by James Whitcomb Riley," museum officials said.

The festival will close with "A Romance of the Redwoods" (1917) starring Mary Pickford at 4:30 p.m. For tickets and more information, visit www.nilesfilmmuseum.org. ■

About the Cover

The Weekly reporter team spent weeks researching the different compensation packages for teachers in the four major public school districts in the Tri-Valley. Read their story inside, Pages 12-14. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXIV, Number 36

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What do you think is the best piece of advice you've ever given to someone?



Liz Sufit
Veterinarian

Not sure if it's my best advice, but it's a phrase I'm known for: "There are always options." I've used this statement in so many situations — from advising my own kids, to discussing issues with pet owners, to thinking my way through projects. The only problem is that sometimes it's hard to decide which option is the best option!



Amanda Walker
Server

Always take care of yourself and your children first. It's really important to stay well for those who really need you, and it's really tough to be good and helpful toward others if you're not good to yourself first.



Rick Altman
Presentations specialist

I'm not much of a deep thinker, so I will go with the time I was asked about the best advice to give to anyone at all, or even to everyone. It was two words: Do good. That, and always take an extra club when there is water in front of the green.



Frankie Shelton
Bartender

Drink what makes you happy, without worrying about what anyone else thinks. If you want that pink drink, drink the pink drink. At the end of the day, it's going into your body, not anyone else's, so you should just drink what you like.



Sara Clayton
Life coach

Whenever someone has a decision to make, or a challenge to work through, what I've discovered is most helpful to them is for me to set aside all of my own judgments and opinions, and help them to discover the answer for themselves. I believe this is the most rational framework for self-discovery.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Blood drive

The American Red Cross is calling on prospective donors to come out to their local blood center amid a continued shortage nationally of blood and platelet supplies.

"When blood and platelet supplies drop to critical levels, it makes hospitals and the patients they are treating vulnerable — especially if there is a major accident or emergency medical procedure that requires large quantities of blood during a disaster," said Dr. Baia Lasky, medical director for the Red Cross.

The city of Dublin is partnering with the Red Cross for a blood drive next Friday (Oct. 6) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Regional Meeting Room at the Dublin Civic Center at 100 Civic Plaza. To register, visit RedCrossBlood.org, and use sponsor code "DublinCommunity" or zip code 94568 to find Dublin's blood drive, or call 1-800-733-2767.

'Abbey Road' history

The Livermore Public Library is hosting a special presentation next month on the history of The Beatles' famed "Abbey Road" album, led by Dulais Rhys, Ph.D.

"Rhys will discuss this final, but controversial, Beatles album, the crucial role that fifth Beatle, George Martin, had in its creation and how the joined-up song fragments of the second side formed a musical gem," library officials said.

The free event is set for Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Civic Center Library Community Rooms at 1188 S. Livermore Ave. The Friends of the Livermore Public Library have underwritten the program as part of the library's "Authors and Arts Series". Go to library.livermoreca.gov.

Wine scholarship

Livermore Valley Wine Community recently launched the new "Where Genius Grows Scholarship Fund" to support local students seeking a career in viticulture, wine industry hospitality, enology or other aspects of the wine industry.

Applications are being accepted through Dec. 31 for the inaugural scholarships for the 2023-24 academic year — four awards of \$5,000 each toward a degree in approved area of study.

"Livermore Valley Wine Community is committed to the growth and development of the wine industry in our region and beyond. There is no better way to support that growth than investing in our future wine industry leaders," Executive Director Brandi Lombardi said.

For criteria and other information, visit www.lvwine.org. ■

Surprise meeting on personnel topics elicits more criticism toward Sunol school board

Parents, residents claim trustees violated Brown Act and internal policies in calling special session

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Sunol Glen School parents, teachers and community members packed last week's special school board meeting — which many criticized for being called at the last minute — to once again question the board majority's leadership in the wake of the recently passed and highly debated flag resolution.

Many of the people who spoke during the afternoon meeting on Sept. 20 voiced their comments specifically toward Board President Ryan Jergensen and Trustee Linda Hurley, arguing that they don't appreciate how the board is treating Sunol Glen Superintendent Molleen

Barnes and that the board is causing nothing but distrust with the community.

"Bullying is what has been happening here," said Suzannah Chow, a longtime Tri-Valley resident. "Adults bullying adults. Adults bullying children who are members of a marginalized community who deserve our support and love ... This is not the behavior we should role model for our children."

Both Jergensen and Hurley did not respond to requests for comment by time of publication.

Tensions have been high in the small town of Sunol over the past few weeks after the board voted 2-1 — with Trustee Ted Romo dissenting

— to approve a resolution that limits the district's lone school to only display the U.S. and state flags during a crowded board meeting on Sept. 12.

Many of the comments on Sept. 12 focused on the LGBTQ+ pride flag, which has been effectively banned from being displayed at the school due to the newly approved resolution.

The resolution was pushed by the board majority after four people spoke out during an August board meeting against "special interest groups" possibly being allowed to fly their flags at the school. Barnes had allowed the pride flag to be raised on the campus flagpole in June after a previous one had been

torn off a school fence.

Since the flag ban was enacted, some folks have taken to social media and have sent letters to the board voicing their opposition to the resolution, saying that it has been negatively affecting families of the small school that serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

But last week's special meeting felt different from the Sept. 12 meeting for several reasons — the main one being that the community felt the session was inappropriately called for unjust reasons.

"These two trustees on our board are operating in a way where they're

See **SUNOL** on Page 11



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Zone 7 Water Agency General Manager Valerie Pryor delivers remarks during the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 13 to mark the official opening of the Ion Exchange PFAS Treatment Facility at the Stoneridge groundwater well in Pleasanton.

Zone 7 opens PFAS treatment facility

'Going to give us a lot of good water, especially for Pleasanton'

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Zone 7 Water Agency recently unveiled its new state-of-the-art water treatment facility, which will use an ion exchange treatment process to remove PFAS chemicals from the Stoneridge groundwater well in Pleasanton.

"It's finally here ... and it's going to work," Zone 7 Board President Sandy Figuers said during the Sept. 13 facility ribbon-cutting ceremony. "It's going to give us a lot of good water, especially for Pleasanton."

Nearly 30 Tri-Valley officials, residents and Zone 7 staff members gathered for the event to

celebrate the first-of-its-kind facility in Northern California.

Located on Stoneridge Drive just west of Mohr Elementary School, the Ion Exchange PFAS Treatment Facility uses tanks that are filled with small ion-exchange polymers, which are designed to attract PFAS chemicals, otherwise known as forever chemicals, in the water.

Once the chemicals are separated, the facility then works to pump and deliver the now clean water to homes and businesses. Zone 7 officials stated that the new facility will help treat 6.6 million gallons of water per day.

"Thanks to this, we're going to

have clean water, safe water, PFAS free, and we're going to be able to put this well back into the Zone 7 water portfolio, and make sure that we have adequate water for residents for businesses of Tri-Valley, which is so important for our well being," said Zone 7 Director Kathy Narum, a former Pleasanton councilmember.

"This well is the gusher for Zone 7 — it's the largest producer," she added. "Getting this back on with clean, safe, water adds to the Zone 7 water portfolio and the diversification because who knows when the next drought is going to be?"

See **ZONE 7** on Page 7

Weekly journalists move to unionize

Guild reps say employees want seat at table

BY EMBARCADERO MEDIA STAFF

Newsroom employees at Embarcadero Media announced that they are forming a union on Tuesday. The proposed Embarcadero Community News Guild includes reporters, editors, visual journalists and designers across the company's Peninsula and East Bay publications.

The aim of the new union is "to ensure that every newsroom employee has a say in the future of our various newspapers and outlets across the Bay Area," the Embarcadero Community News Guild's organizing committee said in an email to the company. "In that future, our union wants to fight for a seat on the bargaining table — we want input into our jobs, workload, benefits, time off and pay."

Headquartered in Palo Alto, Embarcadero Media publishes three weekly newspapers — the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and Pleasanton Weekly — as well as online outlets Mountain View Voice, Redwood City Pulse, Livermore Vine, The SixFifty, DanvilleSanRamon.com and Peninsula Foodist.

Adam Dawes, CEO of Embarcadero Media, said Tuesday that management needs to familiarize themselves

See **UNIONIZE** on Page 9

Council reviews details of new police union contract

Following initial public hearing, dais to consider final approval of deal next week

By Christian Trujano

Members of the Pleasanton City Council expressed their gratitude last week that the three-month impasse in labor negotiations between the Pleasanton Police Officers Association and city representatives has resulted in a deal amenable to both sides.

After city staff's presentation on the specifics of the new tentative contract agreement, which will cover the next three years and include general salary increases and other pay incentives for officers and sergeant, the council said they are happy both sides came to an agreement. The dais is now set to approve and ratify the contract at the council meeting next Tuesday (Oct. 3).

"Our members are ready to

move on and get back to serving this great community," PPOA President Brian Jewell told the council on Sept. 19. "We cannot thank the community enough for their unwavering support of our officers and public safety."

The two sides had been locked in tense negotiations for most of this year, with the police union declaring impasse just before its previous contract expired on May 31 and rejecting the city's offer at that time of 15% in increases over three years. Since then, community members and police officers alike regularly demanded that the city come to an agreement during past council meetings.

"I've heard input of all sorts and heard a lot of it," Councilmember Valerie Arkin said during the Sept. 19 meeting. "Negotiations

are a very complex issue."

After the impasse, both bargaining teams went through mediation, which failed in July, and were set to enter into a fact-finding process this month where a qualified, impartial third party makes written findings of fact and recommendations for resolution of an impasse.

But after several closed-session meetings and the city bringing on legal counsel from the San Jose-based firm Burke, Williams & Sorensen, both sides were able to come to a tentative agreement late last month. The PPOA voted in support of the deal on Aug 31, according to Jewell.

"I'm very pleased that we've reached an agreement with our Pleasanton Police Officer Association and really to see the end of a very contentious and politically-based negotiation season," Arkin added. "Hopefully we've emerged from this and we will be better together."

Some of the key elements of the new agreement include 16% general wage increases over the three-year contract. If ratified in October, officers and sergeants can expect a 6% pay increase in the first full pay period after the contract is approved. Police sergeants will also receive an additional "market equity adjustment" of 3%.

After that, officers and sergeants

will see a 5% increase in June 2024, a 1% increase in December 2024 and a 4% increase in 2025.

According to the presentation, the total financial impact to the city's general fund, which will last through the 2025-26 fiscal year, will be \$6.9 million.

Other details from the tentative agreement include establishing a "Master Officer and Sergeant Program" by December 2025, which will act as a career development incentive for employees who have been with the department for a long time and have met certain criteria.

The city will provide master officer and sergeant pay equal to 2% of base pay to those eligible employees.

Crime scene investigators, officers from the detective, traffic and motor divisions, and those on the SWAT and hostage negotiations teams will also receive a special assignment premium pay equal to 2.5% of the base salary pay.

That premium pay will go up to 5% of the base starting on June 1, 2025, according to the staff report.

Other negotiated items in the contract include an additional 20 hours of supplemental vacation leave for every employee, an increase in the city's contribution to the PPD's Retiree Health Savings Account from \$50 a month, to

\$150 and other specifics on getting paid for attending certain meetings outside of regularly scheduled work hours.

However, that financial impact of over \$6 million will have some repercussions, according to city officials. The staff report states that in order to level out the general fund budget, the city will have to make certain budget reductions by freezing certain vacant positions as well as reducing some non-personnel budget items across multiple city departments.

The report also states that the funding gap is expected to be approximately \$1.2 million annually starting in 2025 and that without any new, sustainable form of revenue, the city will have to make further budget cuts across other city departments.

Staff plan on presenting any necessary budget adjustments during the next biennial budget development process in spring 2025.

That point, however, was not discussed at last week's meeting as the council as a whole mainly said they are ready to move on and are ready to close what has been a long and complicated summer of negotiations.

"Our police force is one of the finest and everyone agrees," Mayor Karla Brown said. "We greatly appreciate and value the service to the community." ■

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Livermore to relaunch search for airport manager after top choice backs out

Former SFO official informs city he's taken different job instead

By Cierra Bailey

The city of Livermore will resume its search for a new manager of the Livermore Municipal Airport after selecting a candidate who pulled out of the job at the last minute to take another position.

City officials announced last Friday they had hired Michael Carr — a former San Francisco International Airport official — for the position, but they recanted the public statement over an hour and a half later, saying that Carr had accepted a different job elsewhere and only informed the city after they already distributed the press release.

In the initial statement, City Manager Marianna Marysheva

expressed excitement for Carr to take on the role, which was planned to begin on Monday.

"I am excited to welcome Michael to our team," Marysheva said in the since-recalled press release. "His unique career experience building and managing diverse teams, leading major airport projects, and innovating and advancing programs will undoubtedly serve to benefit the Livermore Airport, the city organization, and the broader Livermore community."

Michael Musca, who served as airport manager for roughly 11 months, has ended his temporary tenure. According to city officials, he was brought in to assist with the airport management on a short-term basis.

The airport manager's role is to oversee and manage the airport, ensuring compliance with all federal, state and local regulatory

requirements, and providing technical and complex administrative support to city department heads and the City Council.

Reporting to public works director Scott Lanphier, the airport manager supervises the airport staff and manages an annual operating budget of \$4.4 million.

Operations and development at the airport have been controversial topics in recent years, largely due to resident concerns about noise and pollution. The next candidate who is hired for the airport manager position — and commits to it — will be instrumental in continuing the implementation of the contentious airport development policy approved back in July.

City officials said that recruitment efforts will begin again soon, and in the meantime, assistant airport manager Benedict "Benny" Stuth will serve as acting airport manager. ■



Michael Carr

Emerald High construction delayed three months, but project saves \$49M in costs

Students scheduled to begin classes onsite next fall instead of spring

By NICOLE GONZALES

Dublin Unified School District leaders recently revealed that Phase 1 of the Emerald High School construction has been delayed by several months, meaning students will begin attending classes onsite at the start of the next school year, instead of this spring.

Superintendent Chris Funk shared the updates on the highly anticipated second comprehensive high school via an email release sent out last Friday, which also included the news that the project has saved an estimated \$49 million in costs, prompting staff to push for a 600-seat theater on the campus.

Although contractors had initially hoped to finalize Phase 1 of construction by Dec. 31, the completion date has been moved to March 20, 2024. In his notice, the superintendent shared the delay has been caused by a myriad of factors, citing

supply chain issues, weather delays, labor shortages and Division of State Architect approvals.

"We know this project is the top priority for many in our community. While we know this is disappointing, we want to assure you that this will not impact the learning experience of our EHS students," Funk said of the delay.

The inaugural class of Emerald students, the accompanying administrative staff and instructors have been operating out of portables on the Dublin High campus since the start of this school year.

"Staying at DHS for the remainder of the school year will eliminate the disruption associated with moving to a new campus mid-year and allow us to continue working with nine teachers at DHS where students are dually enrolled," Funk added. "This also provides the time needed to lay the foundation and steel the second tower in Phase II, test all the systems, and work out any kinks before



Contractors had initially hoped to finalize Phase 1 of Emerald High School construction by Dec. 31, but the completion date has now been moved to March 20, 2024.

students and staff arrive."

In alignment with the new timeline, Emerald sport activities will be able to take place on campus starting summer 2024. On June 1, staff will have access to the site and

beginning in August, Emerald freshmen and sophomores will attend school onsite.

The superintendent also shared in his report that Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project have saved \$49 million

from the original cost estimates. The project period was initially expected to cost \$385 million. With the saved resources, district leaders suggested the idea of adding another structure to the Emerald campus.

"Thanks to the hard work, collaboration, and intelligent decisions made by our facilities team, (partners) PBK Architects and BHM Construction, we now project that our district will save just over \$49M on Phase 1 and 2," Funk wrote. "With that, our facilities team will be presenting a recommendation to fund a 600 fixed-seat theater to our Board of Trustees."

The board voted 3-2 on Tuesday to approve the theater project with a budget of about \$38.3 million.

Once completed, the Emerald High School will host an estimated 1,300 students from grades nine to 12. The campus will feature a gymnasium, visual and performing arts classrooms, sports track, football field and more educational facilities. ■

ZONE 7

Continued from Page 5

According to Zone 7 General Manager Valerie Pryor, staff had been working on getting the facility up and running for about 13 months ever since the State Water Resources Control Board announced a new draft response level for a PFAS compound that put the Stoneridge well out of service.

However, once that regulation went into effect in October 2022, she said staff really took the initiative in quickly seeking approval to purchase the vessel tanks that are now being used at the facility.

"If you look at the timeline of what went on with this project ... it's really due to our staff that the

project has been put forward in such a timely manner," Zone 7 Director Sarah Palmer said during the Sept. 13 ceremony.

She said that with all of the recent announcements surrounding PFAS contamination in Pleasanton's groundwater wells and in the Tri-Valley, when Zone 7 staff decided to shut down those certain wells — even before they were legally required to do so — it showed proactive steps in addressing the problem.

She also said that when staff came up with the idea to purchase vessels for the treatment facility, they were really looking ahead in order to best serve the community.

"Because of their genius in basically looking forward and getting these

vessels laid out and ready for us, we have a project now, which is ready to go and we can turn these wells on again," Palmer said.

Dennis Gambs, Zone 7 vice president, added that the facility is particularly important because it allows Zone 7 to use its largest well to provide water during times of drought, like it previously did during the last one.

"Treating PFAS is a clinical part of making deployment of a water supply safe and reliable," Gambs said.

According to Pryor, the project

had a total value cost of \$16.3 million that Zone 7 was planning on paying off by using its water rates. However, she told the Weekly that the agency had received the news the day before the ceremony that it was receiving a \$16 million grant from the California Department of Water Resources, which would cover most of the project cost.

She also said that a second, similar facility is currently in the works for the Zone 7 Chain of Lakes wells, which is located just east of the Stoneridge well. She

said the contractors have been hired and that with that project getting mobilized by the end of the month, she hopes to have that second facility up and running by next year.

"Our water partners with Zone 7 are taking the lead in removing PFAS from this first well here on Stoneridge Drive," Mayor Karla Brown told the Weekly. "This is an extremely successful project. We're so appreciative of Zone 7, doing PFAS-free water distribution within the city of Pleasanton." ■



COURTESY DEL VALLE WINERY

Fall Harvest Food and Wine Pairing

To kick off autumn, Livermore chef and pairings professional Leslie Dabney — dubbed "The Vineyard Mom" — and Del Valle Winery are hosting The Fall Harvest Food and Wine Pairing. Set for Sunday (Oct 1) from 1-2:30 p.m., a max of 40 guests will gather under the winery's arbor-in-the-vineyard to sip and dine on three harvest-themed pairings.

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Learn more about us: culinaryangels.org

City receives award for police alternative response unit

Program introduces clinicians, non-uniformed officers to mental health calls

By Christian Trujano

The city of Pleasanton took home the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence for the development of the Pleasanton Police Department's Alternate Response to Mental Health program during the annual League of California Cities conference last week.

The association of city governments from across the state awarded 10 cities on Sept. 21, including Pleasanton, for their "outstanding efforts and innovative programs to improve the quality of life and delivery of services in their communities," according to its website.

"By utilizing the specialized training of the licensed mental health clinicians from Bonita House Inc., and through partnerships with local health institutions, the city has significantly expanded the scope of emergency mental health resources provided to its residents and increased levels of service, compassion and care," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said in a subsequent press release.

After the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin in 2020, the Pleasanton City Council had held

several public dialogue sessions in order to discuss policing in the city and while there were several themes that came out of those conversations, the overall consensus from residents was that they wanted officers not in uniform to respond to mental health 911 calls, according to city officials.

They also wanted the city to offer more appropriate resources from licensed clinicians for at-risk community members.

After that, the council unanimously approved the formation of a task force to identify such a program that would provide an "alternative approach to addressing community members experiencing a mental health crisis," according to city officials.

The police's alternative response unit was eventually brought to the council for approval in 2022 and was then fully implemented by January 2023 with a full staff of one sergeant, two officers and two clinicians. According to the release, the unit works together to identify and follow up on calls to the police department in which a mental health crisis was included.

"The community has been extremely supportive of the city's Alternative Response to Mental



Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and City Manager Gerry Beaudin stand onstage as the city is awarded the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence during the Sept. 21 annual League of California Cities conference in Sacramento.

Health program," Mayor Karla Brown stated in the release.

While all PPD officers do receive de-escalation and crisis intervention training, the alternate response unit differs in that they receive additional training on mental health services available and the Pleasanton Unified School District's medic first responder course.

Since January, the special unit has responded to over 367 calls for service in which only 96 of those interactions required the help of

uniformed officers — that helped free up police resources and reduced the number of psychiatric holds by 47%, according to city officials.

The unit has also helped place 50% of the city's unhoused population into permanent or long-term housing, according to city officials, saying that speaks to the unit's goals of providing the city's most vulnerable residents with more resources and to boost the community's overall response to

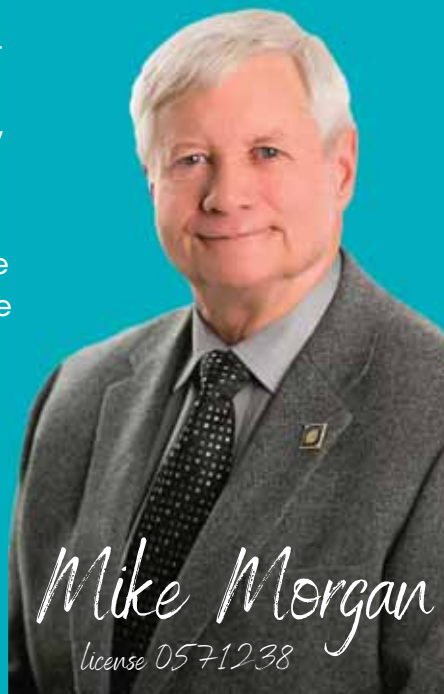
behavioral and mental health

"I am proud of the city's commitment to finding and implementing a program that has made such a profound impact on the Pleasanton community, and the recognition it has received from the League of California Cities," Brown said.

Staff from the League of California Cities will be set to present the award to Pleasanton during the Oct. 17 Pleasanton City Council meeting. ■

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Annual Alameda CTC report released to public

Agency also recognized for excellence in finance reporting

By Nicole Gonzales

A newly completed report on the Alameda County Transportation Commission shares in-depth information on the public agency's funding, expenditures and activities from the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The Independent Watchdog Committee's 21st annual report was made available to the public through the Alameda CTC website this August. It makes recommendations on the delivery of projects and programs funded by voter-approved items, such as Measure B and Measure BB, and related audited financial statements have also been published along with the report.

Every year the IWC reviews the commission's operations and expenses related to voter-approved measures. It then works to analyze the data, offer suggestions and then release it to the public.

The latest report looks at Measure B, Alameda County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements approved in 2000, and Measure BB, which increased the tax to one full cent in 2014 and extended it through 2045.

According to the IWC report, the Alameda CTC received \$144.1 million in funds from Measure B during the 2021-22 fiscal year. The commission spent \$112.5 million through public transit, debt repayment and transportation improvements, among other costs.

Accounting for the highest expenditure of Measure B funds, is \$41.7 million on public transit. The costs include operations, capital investments and special transportation for seniors and people with disabilities, according to Alameda CTC.

The commission spent \$38.5 million for local transportation improvements, including local streets and roads and bicycle and pedestrian projects, and \$26.5 million for debt repayment. \$5.8 million was then spent on highway and street capital projects, general administration and direct program oversight.

As for Measure BB funds, the commission received \$241.8 million in revenue and expended \$248.5 million.

The highest category of spending using Measure BB funds was \$86.2 million for highway and

street capital projects. The next largest expenses were \$78.3 million for public transit and \$76.2 million for local transportation improvements. \$7.8 million was spent on administration, direct program oversight and other grants.

In a separate statement, Alameda CTC also recently announced it has been recognized for its excellence in financial reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

For its annual comprehensive financial report published in June 2022, the commission was honored with the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting." This is the 10th consecutive year the commission has been honored by GFOA's awards.

"This award is a tremendous honor," Alameda CTC Executive Director Tess Lengyel said in a statement. "The Alameda CTC Finance Team's stewardship of public funds and clear, accessible communications of the agency's financial statements is second to none." ■

County supervisors declare homelessness state of emergency

Move could unlock tools to streamline new housing, government funds

By RUTH DUSSEAULT / BCN

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously last week to authorize a countywide homelessness state of emergency.

The resolution, proposed by Board President Nate Miley, directs the county's Office of Homeless Care and Coordination (OHCC) to lead the development of an emergency response to homelessness and report back to the board with recommendations within 60 days.

In a statement, OHCC said that declaring a local state of emergency would unlock additional tools that could streamline procurement, the creation of housing

and the ability to request state and federal funds.

It could expedite the implementation of the Home Together 2026 Community Plan, a five-year roadmap that centers racial equity and identifies strategies for reducing homelessness in Alameda County.

Answering questions from the board at the Sept. 19 meeting, OHCC director Kerry Abbott said her staff will be exploring methods of speeding staff hires.

"Right now, once we receive funding, a new position recruitment and hire can take six to nine months," Abbott said.

In his resolution, Miley pointed to a recent county survey that

showed the homeless population has increased 22% since 2019, and 73% of homeless residents are unsheltered. While Alameda County is approximately 10% Black, about 43% of its homeless population is Black. As of early 2022, Alameda County had at least 9,747 unhoused residents on a single night.

In 2022, the city and county of Los Angeles declared a state of emergency on homelessness, which worked as a local coordination tool.

This summer, new Denver Mayor Mike Johnston made a similar declaration. His office identified 200 public plots for tiny home communities and initiated cooperation with the city's landlords, property

owners and hotels. Denver is applying for state grants and hopes for possible federal funding.

"While these local proclamations may serve as a useful organizing tool for local governments to streamline their responses, such proclamations do not in most cases meet the requirements for either state or federal emergency assistance," said Brian Ferguson with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Along with a \$15.3 billion investment in addressing homelessness since the governor took office, Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration "has demanded more accountability at the local level when it comes to addressing

housing and homelessness," Ferguson said. "The administration has focused on working with local jurisdictions to meet their housing requirements, clean up encampments and get more vulnerable Californians off the streets and into housing."

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors seemed a little unsure of how an emergency state on homelessness could work. So, they are asking the Office of Homeless Care and Coordination to do the research.

Supervisor Keith Carson said, "Nobody wants to oppose the measure, but we need to be specific about what we can do, as well as what we want to do." ■

Livermore high schools consider switch to semester system

Survey recently conducted seeking parent feedback

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore and Granada high schools are in the process of considering whether to change their course schedules to semesters after 15 years on the trimester system.

Since 2008, both high schools have operated on the trimester schedule, which means the school year is divided into three 12-week terms. There are five class periods in a school day with each class lasting 70 minutes. One trimester is equivalent to a traditional system's "semester" course.

The current schedule aims to provide increased opportunities and flexibility for students with the potential to take up to 75 credits per school year as opposed to 60 in a traditional semester

system, according to Granada High School's course catalog.

A semester system, on the other hand, divides the academic year into two 15-week terms, fall and spring, with a winter break between semesters. High schools in neighboring Pleasanton, Dublin and San Ramon Valley currently operate on the semester system.

The principals of Livermore High and Granada each distributed surveys earlier this month to gauge parents' thoughts on making the transition to the traditional semester schedule.

"Through feedback received from student advisory groups, teachers, and previous school / district surveys, there has been a consistent request for a school day / school year structure that

lengthens the amount of time teachers have with students, ultimately enhancing the building of relationships and connections," LVJUSD officials told Livermore Vine.

The survey asked parents to rank various aspects of the school experience from one to five by level of importance, with one being not at all important and five being extremely important. The list included student relationships with staff, athletics, elective options, start and end times and length of instructional periods, among other factors.

"To provide parent input, high school parents and guardians have been given an opportunity to complete a survey to rank priorities associated with high

school schedules. After analyzing the collective data, further discussions will take place to determine if moving away from the current trimester schedule to a semester schedule would be advantageous to supporting the identified priorities," the district said.

In addition to addressing requests from stakeholders, making the switch to semesters could make the transition to college easier for a number of students as many colleges and universities in California currently function on the semester system, including Las Positas community college in Livermore.

All but one of the 23 California State University campuses are on semesters, according to the office of the chancellor's website.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo is the only CSU operating on the quarter system where three quarters are equal to two semesters or one academic year. However, the college is in the process of converting to the semester schedule by the 2026-27 academic year, according to its website.

The quarter system is also currently used at most University of California schools — with the exception of the UC Merced and UC Berkeley.

If Livermore High and Granada proceed with converting to semesters, no determination would affect the current school year, but the decision could modify the schedule structure for 2024-25 and beyond, district officials said. ■

UNIONIZE

Continued from Page 5

with their role, responsibilities and legal obligations, so he could offer only a limited response.

"Throughout our history we have always valued our employees and think of their well being as an essential part of how we do business," said Dawes in a company-wide email responding to the unionization announcement. "We look forward to working collaboratively with you to get to a resolution that is positive for everyone involved and supports the continued mission of our organization going forward."

Nearly 90% of non-management newsroom employees signed union authorization cards, according to Embarcadero Community News Guild organizers. The guild published its mission statement on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter,

Tuesday morning.

"Through our range of work, from breaking news to features to investigative pieces, readers across four Bay Area counties turn to us to get to know the places they live and rely on us to hold local municipalities accountable. And we're really proud of this work!" the guild posted on X. "But the last few years at Embarcadero, we've experienced layoffs, reductions in hours and jobs, limited resources and an exodus of talented employees. These conditions threaten our ability to keep you, the public, informed."

From Hollywood actors and screenwriters to autoworkers, high profile strikes have highlighted the growing clout of organized labor after a decades-long decline in the ranks of American workers who belong to a union. The Washington Post reported in June that media union membership has grown rapidly over the

past decade, with recent unionization efforts at news organizations including ProPublica, CalMatters and CNET.

"While this notice comes as an immediate surprise, we do

recognize that this is a trend in the industry," Dawes said.

The Embarcadero Community News Guild said it will negotiate a contract as a unit of the Pacific Media Workers Guild,

TNG-CWA Local 39521, which represents other Bay Area news publications including the San Francisco Chronicle, the Mercury News, the Press Democrat and the East Bay Times. ■



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Can this plan fix California's insurance crisis?

What you need to know

BY BEN CHRISTOPHER / CALMATTERS

A week after negotiations to rescue California's floundering home insurance market stalled out in the Legislature, the state's top insurance regulator put out his own rescue plan that effectively amounts to a trade for the state's major insurers.

Under proposed regulations Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara announced on Sept. 21, major insurers will be required to cover a certain share of homeowners in the state's most wildfire-prone areas. In exchange, the Department of Insurance will allow companies to charge more to cover the rising costs of doing business in a fire-ravaged state.

Lara called the package of new proposed regulations "the largest insurance reform" since 1988, the year California voters passed

a proposition requiring insurance companies to get prior approval before raising premiums.

The plan is meant to reverse what has amounted to a slow-motion exodus of private home insurers from the state. In the last year and a half, seven of the top 12 property insurers operating in California have either placed new restrictions on where they do business or stopped selling new policies here entirely.

The biggest player of all, State Farm, announced a freeze on new policies in May, kicking off a fresh round of panic among homeowners scrambling to find affordable insurance policies and lawmakers eager to tackle the crisis.

For years, insurance companies have complained that current rates and the existing regulatory process don't allow them to recoup the cost of doing business in the state's most

at-risk regions. By easing some of those restrictions, while requiring the companies to expand their coverage, "it's the department calling the bluff of insurers," said Rex Frazier, president of Personal Insurance Federation of California, a trade group.

In principle, that's a trade-off insurers are willing to make, he added, though it will ultimately depend on how the specific regulations are crafted in the coming months.

Amy Bach, executive director of the consumer group United Policyholders, struck a similar note.

Lara "did not sell out to the industry here, in my opinion, he struck a deal," she said. "Whether it's going to manifest positively overall ... the proof will be in the premiums."

But Consumer Watchdog — an advocacy group that Lara all but called out by name during his presentation as "bombastic" and a group "materially benefiting" from the current regulatory system — came away with a difficult conclusion.

"He's basically capitulated to the industry," Jamie Court, the group's president, said of Lara. "There's not really much coming back for the consumer in here."

Picking up where legislators left off

Despite mounting public angst and calls for action from top lawmakers, the politics of addressing the problem in the Legislature proved too thorny this year.

In the final weeks of the legislative session that ended a week ago, lawmakers scrambled to bridge the demands of insurers — who called for higher premiums to cover more of their costs and for a more flexible rate-setting process — and those of consumer groups, who resisted calls to add to the financial burdens of homeowners. After negotiations floundered, Gov. Gavin Newsom hinted that his administration and Lara's Department of Insurance might be willing to act on their own.

In a statement, Sen. Bill Dodd, a Napa Democrat involved in the unsuccessful negotiations, cheered Lara's announcement. "Given that the Legislature is not in session right now, utilizing the commissioner's regulatory authority makes good sense," he said. "I know there is work that still needs to be done and I'll be supporting these efforts any way I can."

Insurance companies have pointed to three main reasons that doing business in California is increasingly a losing proposition: Escalating wildfire risk, ever-rising construction costs and the global price of reinsurance — insurance policies that insurance companies, themselves, take out.

While costs have increased, the amount the companies are allowed to charge homeowners is tightly capped and closely regulated in

California, making home insurance policies relatively cheap by national standards. In order to raise rates, major insurers need a sign-off from the Department of Insurance.

Currently, insurance companies are not allowed to factor in the cost of reinsurance into those applications. They are also prohibited from using forward-looking models to predict future costs — something insurers say they desperately need as a warming climate and residential development encroaching into fire-prone areas results in fire seasons that are longer and more catastrophic than they have been in the past.

Lara proposed giving companies both of those tools, though companies will apparently only be allowed to itemize the cost of reinsurance as it pertains to California. It's unclear how this calculation will be made.

Bach with United Policyholders said allowing companies to use predictive models isn't inherently a bad idea — "Are these models nefarious tools of Satan? No," she said — but hopes there will be transparency about which models are used and how they work.

In exchange for these new tools, companies will be required to cover homeowners in wildfire-prone parts of the state at 85% of their statewide coverage. For example, if a company provides 10% of the homeowner policies across California, they would be required to provide 8.5% of the coverage in areas deemed "at-risk."

Court, with Consumer Watchdog,

said 85% is 15% too little. "It's a really sh—y deal," he said.

California homeowners currently unable to get insurance on the private market can currently turn to the FAIR Plan, a last resort issuer of fire coverage funded through a levy on regulated insurers. Between 2018 and 2022, the number of homeowners covered by the FAIR Plan more than doubled to roughly 3% of all homeowners.

But the FAIR Plan policies are expensive and limited. And if the FAIR Plan runs out of money, it's legally required to refill its coffers by levying a surcharge on major insurers. The prospect of the FAIR Plan running out of cash and slapping the industry with the bill has also encouraged insurance companies to scale back their coverage.

Consumer Watchdog regularly challenges the applications for higher premiums that insurance companies submit to the state, an intervention allowed for under the 1988 ballot measure. Today, Lara also said he wants to make it easier for the public to see who intervenes and how much they are compensated for doing so.

"One entity is involved in nearly 75% of all interventions for rate approvals, materially benefiting from a process that is meant for a broader public participation," he said, referring to the nonprofit.

Lara also said that "throwing bombs is easy and putting out bombastic statements from entrenched interest groups doesn't benefit anyone."

Court said his organization would continue to fight back as the department drafts the detailed regulations.

"We'll be battling over this stuff for many months to come," he said. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council Special Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the Remillard Conference Room Operations Service Center— 3333 Busch Road., via video/teleconference and will be broadcast live on Channel 29 and at <https://www.tri-valleytv.org> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>.

- Approve the five-year Citywide Strategic Plan
- Approve Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks conceptual plan and approve a professional services agreement with Callander Associates Landscape Architecture, Inc. in the amount of \$115,000 to prepare construction documents for the Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks Project, CIP No. 06716
- Bi-annual update to the City Council regarding Police Department operations services and activities

Human Services Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the Remillard Conference Room Operations Service Center— 3333 Busch Road

- Consider Recommendation for Fiscal Year 2024/25 Housing and Human Services Grant Program Statement of Priorities and Evaluation Criteria

Library Commission Meeting
Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the Remillard Conference Room Operations Service Center— 3333 Busch Road

- Review and Recommend City Council Adopt Resolutions Approving Updated Library Policies: 1) Public Access to the Internet; 2) Materials Recovery; 3) Collection Development; 4) Request for Reconsideration of Material Form; and 5) Inclusiveness in Material Statement
- Recommend City Council Adopt a Resolution Updating the Master Fee Schedule and the Library Fee Schedule

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TAKE US ALONG



Happy 55th anniversary: Pleasanton's Bob and Marianne Eisberg visited Koloa, Kauai, Hawaii to celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary this June. Bob and Marianne first met in Honolulu in June 1966 and try to return to Hawaii every five years to mark their anniversary in the islands.

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

SUNOL

Continued from Page 5

not welcoming public comment," Erin Choin, a parent of three Sunol Glen students, told the Weekly. "If they have this meeting real quick, it will be very difficult for people to arrange childcare, to get the word out and to attend therefore, there will be low participation and very low opposition for what they intend to do."

Jergensen said during the meeting that he had called the special meeting simply because the board had been in discussion with a legal service subscription that the school had been vying to contract and that last Wednesday was the only day they could have brought a representative from the California School Board Association legal services to speak on the topic.

"We are already members of CSBA ... They provide legal services that we have never used as a board. We have signed a contract to use their legal services," Jergensen said.

He added that because the school had been contracting Fagen Friedman and Fulfrost (F3) as the schools main legal firm for the last four years, it was appropriate to look at other legal services, like CSBA, which offers legal services for half the cost of F3.

"This is a simple, quick meeting to try to save the school money, streamline things and get more resources

for the school — hopefully more money toward kids' education," Jergensen told the audience.

The two board members ended up approving the CSBA contract while also keeping F3's legal services.

But while Jergensen explained that the meeting did not have any negative underlying agenda, many people took to social media and spoke out during the meeting saying that they did not appreciate the closed-session items regarding Barnes' performance evaluation saying that they were worried about her facing backlash for speaking out against the flag resolution that was passed on Sept. 12.

"You really can't have it both ways and say, 'Oh, we need to have this special meeting on very short notice' and also that it's really for no reason, it's no big deal," Choin said. "Right there, there's a disconnect."

That point was also emphasized by Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Alysse Castro, who said during the Sept. 20 meeting that an emergency meeting is usually called due to a crisis, which was not really the case for that meeting.

Another major issue was some residents thought the way the meeting was called and how the agenda was developed violated several Brown Act laws.

"In the past 24 hours, Mr. Jergensen appears to have violated the Brown Act and Sunol Glen Bylaws twice in calling a 'special' school board meeting," Dave Sellinger, a former Sunol

Glen parent, wrote in a letter to the board prior to the Sept. 20 meeting. "As required, he did not involve the superintendent in the development of the agenda and he did not provide adequate notice to all board members."

Sellinger was referring to how Romo was not present at the meeting due to being out of the country.

"I understand that, in the face of community outcry, Ryan has described this meeting as the 'most nothing meeting,' which then begs the question of why it is needed at all or needed on a fire drill schedule without all board members being able to attend," Romo said in a short email statement to the community.

Sellinger said that even though Jergensen had sent out the notice of the agenda 24 hours and 50 minutes prior to the meeting, just within the bare minimum amount of time, the afternoon session should have never taken place due to the choices Jergensen made leading up to the meeting.

"All of those choices created fear, uncertainty and they weighed on the fact that he's already lost the trust of the community," Sellinger told the Weekly. "They were in violation of the law. They were unkind. They were immoral."

As for the point regarding Barnes, he said that he had asked the superintendent if she had been involved in developing the agenda. "I just said, 'Hey, this agenda looks crazy, were

you consulted in the creation of this agenda?' to which she responded, no," Sellinger said.

Sellinger cited Sunol Glen Bylaw 9322, which states, "The board president and the superintendent, as secretary to the board, shall work together to develop the agenda for each regular and special meeting."

He said that during the meeting, the fact that there was no agenda item for closing comments showed that Jergensen did not consult Barnes when developing the agenda, because that would have been something that Barnes would have caught.

The Weekly reached out to Barnes for comment, but she said she was not allowed to speak on the matter.

"I am so sorry — but I am not authorized to speak at this time," Barnes told the Weekly.

According to Sunol Glen administrative assistant Miki Whitfield, that was the "direction we have been given by the board president."

Sellinger also called out Jergensen for adding his closing comments about wanting to work together as a community to resolve future issues and to leave fear and politics outside of the school at the end of the meeting, saying that not only was it possibly another Brown Act violation but also showed that Jergensen was really using the meeting to try and save face.

"Ryan spent the whole beginning of the meeting just talking about his

image ... trying to repair his image just through words when his image was destroyed through his actions," Choin added. "The only way he's gonna be able to repair his image is through new actions."

"You can sit in front of people for 20 minutes, and talk about how you shouldn't be demonized, and you care about the community," she added. "You can tell me all you like about how you care about the community, the steps you take and the behaviors that you display, that either bring our community together or tear it apart, are what are going to speak louder than whatever you have to say at this meeting."

Sellinger, who said he is a conservative who didn't necessarily align with a lot of the progressive ideals of the group of people opposing the Sept. 12 flag resolution, mainly wanted to get one message across: there are more pressing issues in Sunol than banning flags.

He specifically pointed out to when the school experienced serious flood damages last December due to severe atmospheric river storms.

"The backdrop is that the board is choosing issues that while one might say they're nominally relevant to any school, this school in particular, carries no interest in talking about those things," Sellinger said. "The nuance of this situation is that they are forcing those topics in priority over the topics of urgency and relevancy for the children and families of Sunol." ■

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Paying public educators

Analyzing teacher compensation packages across Tri-Valley school districts

BY NICOLE GONZALES, JEANITA LYMAN AND CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Public education, like many sectors, continues to struggle with employee recruitment, retention and morale coming out of the pandemic.

Tri-Valley teachers have said they are feeling the financial burdens of high inflation and a prohibitive housing market — and that without appropriate compensation packages, they will either be forced to move school districts or leave the industry altogether.

“We have a nationwide teacher shortage; we’re feeling the crunch even more in the East Bay and the Bay Area, a very expensive area to live,” Laura Finco, president of the San Ramon Valley Education Association, told the Weekly. “It’s hard to interest, particularly, entry-level educators to come work here if you can’t provide them with the compensation that’s going to make their life livable.”

The Weekly has been diving into the numbers and talking with union and district leaders across the region since the start of the school year to offer an in-depth look into what districts really offer in terms of compensation to their teachers.

“The State Legislature continues to honor the importance of education in their budget. We look to our school district to continue to prioritize our local school budget to support our students with the best resources and supports, best class sizes and best educators,” Cheryl Atkins, president of the Association of Pleasanton Teachers, told the Weekly.

The salary schedule

With each district operating differently, and faced with meeting different needs, it can be difficult to assess a standard on how “well” the educators are compensated given the many bureaucratic procedures, including as basic as navigating the salary schedules.

“Every school district is a little bit different,” said Ahmad Sheikholeslami, assistant superintendent of business services for the Pleasanton Unified School District.

“It’s the way the size schedule was built, negotiated, so on and so forth. No two salary schedules are alike and sometimes that’s what makes comparisons between one school district and another school district difficult,” he told the Weekly.

Pleasanton teachers are compensated via a 20-year schedule, while Livermore Valley and Dublin are paid on a 24-year schedule. Each year the educators advance, they can receive a recurring raise until that upper year.

“When we negotiate, the salary increase goes to all teachers as the entire salary schedule is adjusted. Additionally, teachers see salary improvements when they move on the schedule from one year to another,” Sheikholeslami said. “Depending on where they are in the salary schedule some teachers may not see a step increase. Teachers with 20 years at PUSD don’t see that step increase



FILE PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Amy Turner Bull, a science teacher at Amador Valley High School, takes roll on the first day of the 2022-23 school year.

but do benefit from negotiated salary increases.”

San Ramon Valley Unified School District’s schedule, on the other hand, goes up to year 21 and then teachers get another raise in year 25.

Given the pay timeline, it often happens that the most experienced and seasoned teachers do not get wage increases toward the end of their careers.

And while unions and districts across the Tri-Valley work on bettering relationships in order to negotiate better compensation, it’s not information that is easily accessible to the public.

“Students deserve the best — the best being the highest quality education, teachers and learning environment,” said Larry Spotts, California Teachers Association regional representative and member of the East Bay Coalition for Student Success. “There are many laws and regulations at play when it comes to bargaining or discussion about the educators’ compensation rates. It can be hard for the public to get a clear picture of what is going on and even harder for the unions to try and negotiate fair salaries.”

In May 2022, PUSD and APT approved a new collective bargaining agreement between the district and the union that included a 3.25% salary increase and 2% additional compensation benefits.

The contract, which is open for negotiations every three years, covers the next three academic years.

In addition to the 3.25% increase to the salary, an additional 0.25% was added to the increase with the approval of a 2022 Public Agency Retirement Services memorandum of understanding for retirement incentive. This brought the total salary increase to 3.5% in the ratified 2022-23 APT contract.

According to a PUSD human

resources brochure, Pleasanton pays more than the surrounding districts in Alameda County at Step 1, which is the tier where teachers start when they first get hired.

The chart shown in the brochure outlines how depending on how much in-class experience a teacher has, one could make anywhere from \$69,000 to roughly \$79,000 a year, depending on a range of factors such as higher education, certifications and special skills. According to the 2022-23 Alameda County Teachers Association salary schedule report that was filed to the Alameda County Office of Education, the average annual salary for teachers in the county is just under \$70,000.

However, according to Atkins, inflation is hurting everyone — including teachers. And the fact that the district received a 13.26% increase in new ongoing money from the state and only gave teachers a 3.5% salary increase, did not sit right with her.

“Many teachers are hurting, some work two jobs to make ends meet,” Atkins said. “Last year the state added more money to the base to help with rising inflation costs ... We asked for the district to reopen the negotiations due to the high amount of new money the district received but they were unwilling to open the closed contract.”

Atkins was referring to when the union attempted to reopen renegotiations last year before moving on to the 2023-24 contract. While the district negotiating team said it was not prepared to reopen the 2022-23 contract that the APT ratified last year, they expressed their eagerness to return to the table for next year’s negotiation process.

For that reason, Atkins recently told the Weekly that members of the APT and teachers had gone to the Sept. 14 PUSD Board of Trustees

meeting to make their voices heard on a newer pay increase proposition.

The APT has had two recent negotiation sessions with the district, with another one scheduled for this week (with the results pending as of press time), to ask for a 15.5% raise — according to Atkins, the district had offered 6.25%. She said after surveying the teachers, roughly 98% of them said, “not good enough.”

“We believe that there’s money there,” Atkins said. “We don’t believe that what we’re asking is unreasonable. We know that there’s more money than the 6.25%.”

The main difference between all the Tri-Valley districts in terms of salary schedules boils down to the change in pay over the years, which is where Pleasanton falls behind



HARIKA MADDALA / BCN

Laura Finco, president of the San Ramon Valley Education Association, speaks in support of the march for Dublin teachers on April 26, 2022.



Educators from across Dublin schools gathered for a march.

compared to its neighbors.

Livermore, for example, starts off teachers in their first year from roughly \$69,000 to \$73,000 — depending on their number of teaching years under their belt, according to the 2023-24 Livermore Education Association salary schedule.

But the union and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District recently approved a compensation agreement, which includes a 3% ongoing salary increase for the 2022-23 school year, retroactive to July 1, 2022, as well as the 4% previously negotiated and added to the 2022-23 salary schedule.

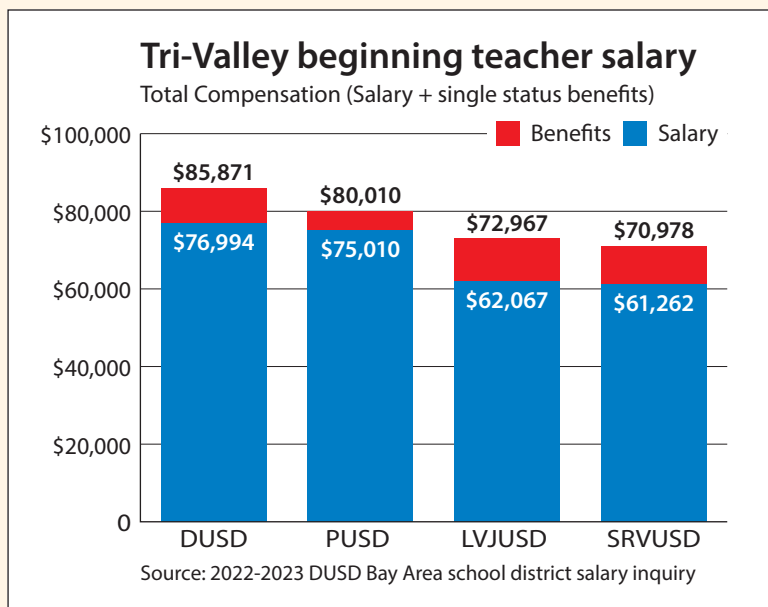
“We were happy to announce that we were able to reach an agreement in a timely manner with our district, so we’re starting the year with a contract and we’re hopeful for continued successful negotiations,” LEA President Aimee Thompson said.

The salary schedule also includes an additional 6% ongoing increase for the current school year.

Before the new salary schedule, Livermore ranked 14 out of 19 nearby districts including the neighboring communities of Pleasanton, Dublin and the San Ramon Valley. Under the newly approved salary schedule, LEA leadership said that Livermore will rank sixth.

But what makes this particularly interesting, according to a website created by Foothill High School engineering teacher Gary Johnson titled “Pleasanton Students Deserve the Best”, is that while PUSD does pay more in the first year — up to roughly \$79,000 depending on previous experience — there is a negative correlation over the years between both salary schedules.

“While PUSD does start higher ... the longer you stay in PUSD, the worse you are doing,” Johnson wrote on the website. “By year 10,



PAUL LLEWELLYN

Bar graph compares compensation averages for Tri-Valley beginning teachers.

LVJUSD is paying more, so anybody that is still working in PUSD after 10 years is a sucker.”

While the average rates can vary on teacher experience and credentials, Dublin Unified School District was shown to pay the highest salary in the Tri-Valley, followed by PUSD, LVJUSD and SRVUSD, according to a 2022-23 Dublin survey.

“The district and DTA are equally committed to working collaboratively on behalf of our most important resource — our staff,” DUSD Superintendent Chris Funk told the Weekly.

He shared that earlier this year, the district and its educators made several agreements related to their contracts. “Most recently in the spring of 2023, we finalized seven agreements that will directly and positively impact our instructional programming for students during the 2023 to 2024 school year,” he said.

“The district looks forward to

continuing negotiation sessions scheduled soon to discuss compensation and other mutually agreed-upon topics,” Funk added.

Funk expressed that the Dublin district values transparency, and compared to neighboring districts DUSD is shown to have some of the highest teacher salaries.

“Our most important resource is our staff, who work to create positive teaching and learning outcomes every day. To this end, we start with a compensation package that puts us at the top of the nearby and comparable school districts,” Funk said.

According to the 2022-23 Dublin Unified School District certificated salary increase schedule, first-year teachers with the district can earn anywhere from nearly \$77,000 to \$92,000 depending on their experience.

“Dubin Teachers Association leadership has invited DUSD management to join our DTA student-centered approach to negotiations. So far, management has not adopted that approach,” said DTA president Allison Malone, a math teacher at Dublin High School.

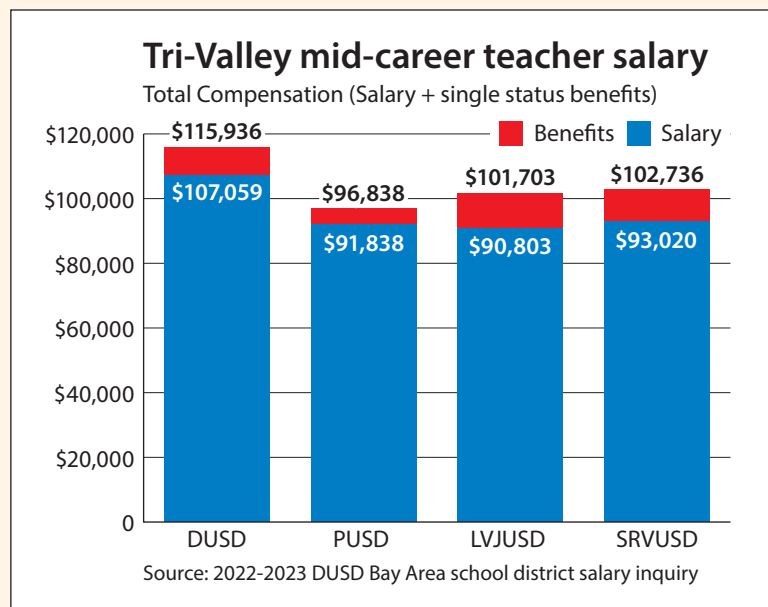
Malone explained that there is often a disconnect between the district leadership, and those in the classroom teaching the students.

“Our members insist on negotiating provisions that guarantee our students get the best support, the best class sizes and the best educators. DUSD management doesn’t seem to have the same understanding of what our students need to thrive as our DTA members have,” Malone added.

Recently, Dublin received an 8.22% increase in state funding known as Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for the 2023-24 school year.

Despite the additional funding, Malone said the educators have not seen an increase in salary, benefits or other resources.

“Management refuses to place a salary offer that will retain and recruit the best on the table. Management has offered a



PAUL LLEWELLYN

Data for mid-career Tri-Valley teacher salary averages are shown in the chart.

significant cut in DTA member purchasing power by offering only a 1% salary increase,” Malone said.

Many Dublin teachers feel the key to peaceful and productive negotiations is to understand the teacher and student perspectives.

“Our DTA student-centered approach to negotiations needs to be adopted by management,” Malone said. “When that happens, we’ll make sure that all our students have the best.”

While the salary range in the San Ramon Valley is lower than the other three districts (first-year teachers make anywhere from \$61,000 to \$69,000), Finco said that the union’s most recent agreement with the district coupled with the positive relationship between both negotiating parties reassures her that improvements can be made in the future.

“This past year ... we were able to secure an 8.5% salary increase,” she said. “We did that in four bargaining sessions in less than three weeks. When you have something like that happen it’s because management and labor are on the same page when it comes to recognizing the need for professional compensation.”

She also said that while there is room for improvement when it comes to SRVUSD teacher salaries, the fact that the district has one of the highest compensated superintendents in the state makes her believe that the district will do the same for their teachers.

“We’re not quite there. There’s still room for improvement on that, but we are able to offer our educators, I think, a better compensation,” Finco said. “I do believe we are able to offer a better compensation package for our teachers than our neighboring districts and again that is because we’ve got a student-focused, positive labor management relationship.”

SRVUSD officials said that working with the union was a priority, and that the district recognizes the value of competitive compensation for teachers in order to maintain a

quality level of education.

“We understand that our ability to provide innovative and inclusive learning environments for students is dependent upon our most valuable resource, our staff,” SRVUSD officials said in a statement to the Weekly. “For this reason, we are committed to working collaboratively with all of our union partners to provide the best possible compensation package that allows the district to recruit and retain a high-quality, diverse staff.”

According to Sheikholeslami, there are a lot of factors to consider when talking about salary increases in general.

Districts receive funding from the state based on enrollment from the LCFF. The state had given districts a grace period during COVID, but most districts like PUSD are now dealing with lower enrollment meaning less money.

However, this past year PUSD saw a roughly \$6 million increase in its LCFF funding from the 2022-23 adopted budget and its cost-of-living adjustments, which both go toward the unrestricted general fund. PUSD had also received roughly \$13 million in new restricted dollars, Sheikholeslami said.

But the problem is that those restricted dollars, while a lot, can only go toward funding specific programs and services such as maintenance, arts, music and departments like special education.

“Those restricted dollars, in that one time, are not really meant for ongoing salary increases,” Sheikholeslami said. “That’s what makes it a challenge is a lot of people saw ‘Oh, my God, the district got such a significant amount of money,’ not realizing such a large portion of them were restricted.”

He also said that on the unrestricted side, those funds helped stabilize the budget so that the district wouldn’t exceed its expenditures, otherwise known as deficit-spending.



HARIKA MADDALA / BCN

ther for the march for Dublin students at Dublin High School on April 26, 2022.

COMPENSATION

Continued from Page 13

“We were projected to deficit-spend almost \$7.7 million,” Sheikholeslami said. “But then when you look at the first interim that got adjusted ... It went from that (\$7.7 million) to about \$4.7 million.”

He said at the end of the day, the main differences in how districts decide their compensation packages is that each district has to prioritize which programs it wants to mainly fund, how many teachers the district has to hire depending on the class sizes and what benefits it wants to offer.

Health and medical benefits

Finco’s point about benefits is another topic in the overall discussion regarding compensation throughout the Tri-Valley. And also one where Pleasanton seems to once again fall short.

“We are no longer at the top (in salary) and we are at the bottom of the surrounding districts when it comes to healthcare benefits,” Atkins said.

Apart from access to vision and dental, the Pleasanton human resources brochure mentions the health benefits for employees in line with CalPERS health benefits — a maximum of \$5,000 including all CalPERS-required contributions.

Atkins said as the APT moves forward with negotiations, she and the union want to see 100% full medical coverage.

“If you’re taking medical in the district, that’s a really tough one,” she said. “If you’re somebody that needs family medical, well ... there’s your paycheck.”

She said that with their medical benefits costs going up 11%, the little bit that the district has offered them is not enough.

“Right now we get \$5,000 and they’ve offered us \$8,000,” Atkins said. “With the 11% increase, really that’s not giving anything to anybody.”

Across the rest of the Tri-Valley, however, other districts provide better health plans.

According to Finco, in addition to that 8.5% salary raise, the union was also able to restore some healthcare plan options — including completely free Kaiser plans — that improved San Ramon Valley teachers’ overall benefits package.

“We have fully paid Kaiser healthcare family, so that right there can be anywhere from \$9,000, if you’re single, to up to \$25,000 a year in additional compensation,” Finco said.

In Livermore, the standard Kaiser family plan with LVJUSD is \$1,035 a month — in Dublin

their Kaiser monthly premium for a family is \$1,096.

But according to Johnson’s website, PUSD teachers have to pay \$2,375 a month for their medical plan.

“That’s over \$25,000 a year benefit over PUSD (\$20,000 net difference when the \$5,000 PUSD stipend is considered),” Johnson wrote. “We again see the negative correlation, though, indicating that PUSD does not value their teachers long term.”

Sheikholeslami, however, said that because most of the districts in the Tri-Valley are more or less the same when it comes to revenue and cost per student, it really comes down to how districts divide up their budgets.

“A lot of times school districts with very generous health benefits, you’ll see the salary starting points ... being a little bit less,” he said.

He said the school districts that are able to pay more, offer better benefits and have less class sizes are able to do so mainly because they receive revenue enhancements such as community funding.

“Without some type of significant revenue enhancement, it’s hard to make those significant inroads like increasing benefits, increasing salaries for our staff,” Sheikholeslami said.

But salary and health benefits aren’t the only things that teachers are looking at when applying to new districts.

Service credit

The Pleasanton human resources brochure goes on to list other things that are not necessarily related to salaries and benefits like stipends for certain degrees, opportunities for professional development and up to 15 years of service credit.

Service credit refers to the number of years a teacher has been



HARIKA MADDALA / BCN

teaching which — in addition to their education — can be factored into a new district in order to land on a higher level on the salary scale.

The issue, however, is when districts offer a maximum of service credit years. And that matters a lot to teachers.

“When I moved to Pleasanton I had eight years of previous experience in another district, but I had to start at year six instead of nine because at that time that was the number of years the district was willing to take,” Atkins said.

She said that was the norm for most districts at the time.

“That meant as a teacher you had a small window of time to find your forever home in a district,” she added. “After a period of time it wouldn’t make financial sense to change districts because you would have to give up too many years.”

But that norm was eliminated at SRVUSD this past year following recent negotiations between the union and the district, Finco said.

“What that means is if you are

a 10-year teacher coming into the district, a 15-year veteran teacher, a 20-year veteran teacher, you got all of that credit on the salary schedule, which means no reduction in salary and in many cases — and I think this is why we got a lot of veteran teachers coming in — it was also a huge pay increase. That’s big,” Finco said.

She said by eliminating service credit limits there are more reasons for teachers to stay in the district and not have to jump from district to district trying for the best salaries.

“We’re providing the best compensation. And again, I don’t want to sound like a broken record, but that’s what’s best for the students — having that stability in the teaching force at a school and at a district is really critical,” Finco said.

Thompson said that one highlight of this year’s agreement is that it eliminates the previous 17-year cap on service credits under the old agreement, making LVJUSD the second Tri-Valley district after SRVUSD without a service credit cap.

“Now we accept all years of service,” Thompson said.

She added that this has already served to help with recruitment to LVJUSD, which was made clear early in the school year.

“We are starting this year with fewer open positions than we did last year, so I think that’s evidence that the compensation settlement we reached was able to attract teachers, and our new hire orientation showed that half of new hires this year to Livermore were coming from other districts,” Thompson said.

As for Dublin, while the district recently increased the years of experience credit from five to six years, the district will also be exploring options for “increasing the years of experience credit that the district provides to new and existing employees and present those options for consideration as part of the 2023-24 reopener negotiations between the district and DTA,” according to the DUSD negotiations update from July 7.

Atkins added that while PUSD did increase the years of service credit it took from six to 15, those service credits have become an important factor for teachers who want to move to districts where their years of experience don’t get factored out and they can get paid more.

“Districts now have to compete with each other to attract and retain their teachers,” she said. “This includes compensation by number of years, medical and health benefits and working conditions.”

“Teachers have left our district for many reasons and yes, some for better pay, better stipends and better benefits,” Atkins added. “We are no longer at the top and other districts are taking more years of service which gives teachers more opportunity to decide where they want to teach to be compensated the best.” ■



COURTESY APT

Over 300 members from the Association of Pleasanton Teachers gather outside of the Pleasanton Unified School District offices on Feb. 9 to demonstrate solidarity with the union’s request to reopen contract negotiations. At the time, the district said it did not want to reopen negotiations until this year’s bargaining cycle.

Being funny never gets old

Experienced female comedy group empowers peers 'of a certain age'

BY NICOLE GONZALES

Coming to the Bankhead Theater stage next week is a powerhouse act of performers known as “Funny Women of a Certain Age” — each star proudly representing a specific demographic, female comedians over 50.

Pulling relatable material from personal anecdotes, the comedians share on topics such as what it's like to raise children, go through divorce and how to age gracefully. Leading ladies Carole Montgomery, Cathy Ladman, Leighann Lord and Barb North offer honest and witty comedy for everyone in their show in downtown Livermore next Friday (Oct. 6) at 8 p.m.

Montgomery, who founded the show, said the idea came to her after witnessing and experiencing a lack of representation for older comedians, specifically women.

“I've been a working comedian for basically my entire life,” Montgomery said. “I was doing a podcast with a bunch of other older female comics. I thought ‘this should be a show, it'll just be female comics over the age of 50. And that's how it happened.’”

Shortly after proposing her idea, Montgomery landed a deal with Showtime to produce several specials of “Funny Women of a Certain Age”. The first aired special went on to become the network's highest rated comedy special of 2019.

It also made television history for being the first comedy special to feature six women over the age of 50.

Television shows can take up to 15 years to develop and get on the air, unlike “Funny Women of a Certain Age”, which took a matter of months.

“It's highly unusual,” Montgomery said. “It happened so fast. It was like it just started to take off and then within the year Showtime gave us another special and we were still able to get the third special done right in the middle of the pandemic. So that was pretty wild.”

Montgomery expressed joy in being able to fill a gap in media representation for women over 50.

“I'm really proud of the fact that there was nothing like this. In Hollywood, it's like you're considered dead after you turn 40,” she



Carole Montgomery



Cathy Ladman



Leighann Lord



Barb North

added. “We were one of the first ones to break down the age barrier; now there's this huge pro-aging movement that I like to think I had a little bit to do with it.”

One of Montgomery's hand-picked comedians performing with the group is New York native Cathy Ladman. The two have known each other for just over four decades.

“Carole is one of the first people I met when I started doing stand up in New York. So I've known her for just about 42 years,” Ladman said. “I knew what she was working on (with “Funny Women of a Certain Age”). I loved the idea and I definitely want to be a part of it. There's so much good talent that has gone under the radar because of sadly obvious reasons.”

Ladman has appeared on television on “The Tonight Show”, “The Late Late Show” and in her own installment of the HBO comedy series “One Night Stand”.

“I love working alongside these women. It's really fun to be working with my peers,” Ladman said. “I hope we bring the audience members a lot of joy. I hope that they have a feeling of connection and that they spread the word that there is no age limit on funny. Funny never gets old; that's the whole essence of our show.”

Like many of the other castmates, Barb North has known the show's founder for decades.

“We've been very close friends for a very long time. She is an amazing comedian and organizer,” North said of Montgomery. “When she started putting the show together, it

‘They're all powerhouses, these women. With these shows I'm trying to give these women their power.’

Carole Montgomery,
Comedian

was just so exciting and fun.”

Aside from performing her own original comedy, North also manages comedians and has been a television writer for several years.

“(Funny Women of a Certain Age) is all about the friendship and the fun we have backstage and onstage. We support each other, we love each other, we laugh at each other,” North said. “Twenty or 30 years ago, women in comedy just didn't have that opportunity. It's so refreshing, we're all on each other's side and we get to do this together.”

North feels that she and other women comedians over 50 have only improved their acts through the years. Sharing real stories about getting older and aging makes the connection with the audience that much more tangible, she said.

“One of the best parts of the show is getting to connect with the audience members. People come up to us after the show and say ‘I can totally relate’ or ‘that happened to me’ and it's so wonderful

to hear,” North said. “How many times do we have somebody onstage talking about their grandchildren or Medicare or graying, it's pretty rare.”

“You don't get older without getting better at comedy. Many of us talk about topics like aging, our chest sagging, getting hot flashes and all the things that we feel at this age. It's just all of us together laughing at what life is doing to us,” North added.

Co-star Leighann Lord also enjoys how relatable the audience finds the show.

“We're representing grandmothers and mothers and women who have been there and done that,” Lord said. “Younger women come to the show as well because they see their moms or their aunts reflected in us, so that depth and breadth of funny and wide range of womanhood is an amazing perspective.”

Lord and Montgomery have been longtime friends, having met almost 20 years ago at the Boston Comedy Festival. The two shared the unique experience of performing for American troops overseas in the Middle East in the early 2000s.

“We've literally been to war zones together,” Lord said.

“For a lot of the women in this show, they've been honing their craft for 20 or 30 years, in some cases 40 years. That's a lot of experience to just leave sitting on the shelf,” Lord added. “The industry should be more inclusive.”

Montgomery emphasized the feeling she receives from uplifting

her fellow comedians, and her best friends.

“I really just wanted to work with my friends, and I happen to be very lucky in that I have a lot of really funny friends,” Montgomery said. “A lot of us have been friends for many, many years. We've traveled all over the world together, we are business partners. All of these particular women are my closest and longest friends.”

“They're all powerhouses, these women. With these shows I'm trying to give these women their power,” she said. “My favorite part when I'm watching the show is watching these women shine. Because they have all been in the business a very long time. When I watch them and I see them doing well, my heart swells because I'm so happy.”

Although the comedy show does focus on encouraging women over 50, cast members agree anyone can laugh along.

“One of the things I'm very conscious about is — yes, it's called ‘Funny Women of a Certain Age’ — but it's really for everybody and any age,” Montgomery said of her comedic brainchild.

“And it also doesn't exclude people either, men come to the show as well because first and foremost, it's a funny show. Everyone has a good time, which I think is one of the special things about the show,” Lord added.

To get tickets or find out more information about “Funny Women of a Certain Age”, go to livermorearts.org. ■

Livermore Valley Arts executive director honored by county

Carter among seven recipients of this year's Arts Leadership Awards

BY NICOLE GONZALES

Alameda County officials recently announced the winners of the 2023 Arts Leadership Awards, with Livermore Valley Arts Executive Director Chris Carter among the honorees.

Each year, the Alameda County Arts Commission reviews nominations for the Arts Leadership Awards based on achievements and contributions that impact the arts community within the county. This year, seven people have been honored out of the five supervisorial districts (with districts 1 and 3 recognizing two leaders each).

As executive director of the nonprofit Livermore Valley Arts, Carter oversees the operations of Livermore's Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center. Altogether, LVA presents



Chris Carter

over 250 artistic events and programs each year.

"It is such an honor to be recognized in this way by the Board of Supervisors," Carter said in a statement ahead of the ceremony at next week's board meeting. "To be acknowledged in such a profound way for sharing and serving our community through the arts, it is such a tremendously joyful moment in both my professional and personal career, for both myself and for Livermore Valley Arts."

Carter, who represents Supervisorial District 1, was appointed executive director just six weeks before the COVID-19 pandemic began in

2020 and changed the way live entertainment was presented for several years. He successfully led the organization through 14 months of subsequent closure.

"Chris found creative ways to deliver the arts to the community through free online art classes, camps, concerts, and an online interview series," county officials said. "He also actively advocated for the arts with other regional arts leaders to keep the arts supported through the pandemic. Chris was able to find ways to maintain relevance and support from Alameda County patrons to keep the organization afloat."

"Chris is an innovative and dedicated arts leader working to support the arts in Alameda County," they added.

Carter, a Pleasanton resident, serves on a number of local nonprofit

boards including Visit Tri-Valley, the Livermore Jazz Society, and the Las Positas College Commercial Music Advisory Board. He is also a member of the East Bay Arts and Cultural Alliance.

This is the second consecutive year LVA staff has been recognized by the county for contributions to the arts. Last year, visual arts and education manager Anne Giancola received the same award for District 4.

The other recipients of this year's Arts Leadership Awards are Alvin Minard, Carol Morgan, Debby Kajiyama, José Ome Mazatl, Patricia Doyme and Ellen Lake.

Minard, a fellow award recipient from District 1 following a tie in the voting, is a longtime board member of the Fremont Cultural Arts Council, which hosts events related to arts, crafts and education.

Morgan, the District 2 honoree, is board president of the East Bay Youth Orchestra in Hayward.

The duo of Kajiyama and Mazatl were selected to represent District 3. The two are founders and co-artistic directors of the NAKA Dance Theater, a venue that highlights work from artists of color.

Honored for District 4, Doyme is president of A.R.T., Inc. a Castro Valley gallery and artist workshop venue.

Lake, of District 5, is the executive director of Kala Art Institute in Berkeley.

The Board of Supervisors plans to host the recipients during its meeting next Tuesday (Oct. 3) in Oakland to present the awards. The awards coincide with National Arts and Humanities Month that runs throughout October. ■

'Breakfast at Baci's' wins Paint Pleasanton 2023

Easels line downtown for outdoor art event

BY JEREMY WALSH

Dozens of Bay Area artists descended upon historic downtown and surrounding areas earlier this month for the annual Paint Pleasanton outdoor art event and competition.

During the sunny weekend of Sept. 9-10, artists created their works live and in person around the city and then displayed their finished products for viewing and judging at the Museum on Main. Gouache artist Heather Martin won the top award in the Pleasanton Art League event, earning Best of Show for her painting "Breakfast at Baci's".

"Paint Pleasanton has been such a great experience," Martin said in a statement released by PAL.

"It was almost overwhelming how many great subjects there were downtown, and it was impressive how much character, charm and history has been maintained over the years," she added. "The cherry on top was the kindness and excitement from all of the passersby and volunteers. Will definitely return!"

Other winners in the competition were PAL president Meghana Mitragotri, Malavika Oak, Nancy Roberts, Nutan Singh and Jessica Copeman. Bay Area artist and instructor John Finger served as the judge.

"Downtown Pleasanton has so much varied architecture, so many beautiful street corners and people out, there's an endless amount of subjects to paint," artist Neil Mitchell said in a statement after the event.

"All the tree cover gives shade to paint in and at any time of day the



Paint Pleasanton 2023 Best of Show winner Heather Martin (left) holds her award-winning piece "Breakfast at Baci's".

effect of light through the trees hitting buildings and slanting across streets makes me want to paint everything I see," Mitchell said. "PAL was so enthusiastic about

painting and welcoming in general that it just made the weekend that much more enjoyable. I'm excited to paint more of Pleasanton in the future." ■

An Afternoon or Evening with 'Frankenstein' author Mary Shelley

Museum speaker series gets into spooky spirit

BY JEREMY WALSH

The calendar turning to October this weekend will mean Halloween — and the Museum on Main is ready for the occasion, with the final installment of its 2023 Ed Kinney Speaker Series.

"An Afternoon or Evening with Mary Shelley" will provide an interactive glimpse into the life's journey of the late British author best known for her eternal novel "Frankenstein", which shocked audiences upon its release more than 200 years ago. Scholar-storyteller Susan Marie Frontczak will portray Shelley on the Firehouse Arts Center stage next week.

"A performance about the author of 'Frankenstein' is timely for the Halloween season. Although often considered a monstrous creature, Frankenstein is a complex character who faces his own trials," said Rachel Brickell, director of education for the museum and coordinator of the annual speaker series.

Running monthly from January through October, the series presents actors embodying historical figures for live performances in the Chautauqua style, playing the character in the first-person for a scripted show and initial audience Q&A before answering final questions out of character.

"Teenage mother, behind-the-scenes supporter of social reform, romantic, and scholar, English writer



MUSEUM ON MAIN

Susan Marie Frontczak portrays English author Mary Shelley.

Mary Shelley may be best known as the author of 'Frankenstein'. See how Shelley painted her own personal experience with a vivid imagination to build this original and enduring work of science fiction," museum officials said.

Frontczak will perform live twice next Tuesday (Oct. 3) at the Firehouse theater in downtown Pleasanton, with 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. shows. One week later, viewers can register to watch the presentation remotely on Oct. 10 via the webinar platform BigMarker.

The Shelley show marks the last speaker for the 2023 season, which was sponsored by the City of Pleasanton, Civic Arts Commission Grant Program, National Endowment for the Humanities, California Humanities, Alameda County Arts Commission and Best Western Pleasanton Plus Inn.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org, at Museum on Main (603 Main St.) during regular operating hours Tuesdays through Saturdays or by calling 925-462-2766. ■

POLICE BULLETIN

Tri-Valley woman sentenced for embezzling \$1.7M from Men's Wearhouse

A woman from Danville was sentenced to 22 months in federal prison for embezzling over \$1.7 million from Men's Wearhouse and its parent company Tailored Brands, federal prosecutors said last week.

Gina Suzanne Lonestar, a former Men's Wearhouse employee, pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California.

Lonestar, 52, admitted that in December 2010, she devised a plan to create a fake vendor to defraud Men's Wearhouse and Tailored Brands of money by submitting and approving false invoices for the fake vendor, prosecutors said.

She fabricated a document claiming the vendor was a sole proprietorship linked to a family member. She then began submitting and approving invoices, falsely stating the vendor was operating at Men's Wearhouse stores in California, such as inspections and handyman work, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Lonestar admitted that she approved false invoices in the name of the fake vendor for approximately eight years, defrauding the apparel giant of over \$1.7 million, which was deposited to her bank account. She also admitted that the family member with whom she supposedly co-owned the company performed none of the work for which she provided invoices, prosecutors said.

Lonestar served as a senior director of Men's Wearhouse's facilities department and vice president of the retailer's construction and maintenance division. She was director of the facilities department when she devised her scheme, prosecutors said.

Lonestar's scheme ended in 2019 when the company discovered the conduct during an internal audit. She was authorized to approve invoices for work done by vendors the whole time she worked for Men's Wearhouse, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

In September 2022, a federal grand jury indicted Lonestar, charging her with six counts of wire fraud. But due to her plea agreement, she pleaded guilty to one count and the court dismissed the remaining counts during her sentencing hearing.

Besides her prison time, Lonestar is ordered to pay \$1,736,216 and to serve three years of supervised release, which will start after she leaves prison, prosecutors said. On Dec. 1, there will be a hearing to determine issues on restitution regarding the verdict.

Lonestar will begin serving her sentence on Jan. 5, 2024, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

—Gabe Agcaoli, Bay City News



OPD VIA BCN

Oakland PD netted 131 guns at a prior Guns to Gardens buy-back event. Alameda County was recently found to have one of the highest rates of violent crimes involving guns.

In other news

- An employee of a San Francisco daycare center who pleaded guilty to possessing and distributing child pornography has been sentenced to 25 years in federal prison, the U.S. Department of Justice said Monday.

Jace Wong, 26, was taken into custody in April 2021 after an undercover officer allegedly linked him to a video during a chat of a girl between 4 and 6 years old with her pants down and vagina exposed. Officers were able to identify Wong and his location through his cell-phone and arrest him, prosecutors said.

Officers also discovered the black and white tiled bathroom in which the child was standing in the childcare facility. Other videos and images from that bathroom were also discovered, prosecutors said.

Wong used the social media app Kik to join an online group called "Younger love (heart emoji) (heart emoji)" that shared the images.

Wong also showed agents a hidden file on his phone with 428 media files, "many of which contained videos and images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct," according to the FBI.

Additionally, agents found an 8-minute-long video depicting sexual activity between a man and an underage girl, prosecutors said.

Wong has previously worked in other daycare facilities, including one in Livermore.

He pleaded guilty to producing and distributing child pornography involving preschool-aged children and toddlers.

—Bay City News Service

- For over a decade, San Joaquin and Alameda counties have had the highest rates of violent crimes involving guns among California's 15 largest counties, according to a newly released study.

The Public Policy Institute of California, in a research it published on Monday, said that nearly 40% of violent crimes from 2010 to 2022 in San Joaquin and Alameda counties involved firearms.

The study, based on data from the California Department of Justice's Criminal Justice Statistics Center, revealed that in the same period, 90% of all homicides recorded in both counties involved guns.

In Contra Costa County and San Francisco, around 70% and 60% respectively of their homicide cases involved guns. In Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, 50% and 38% respectively of similar cases were also committed with firearms, the study found.

Half of robberies committed in Alameda County from 2010 to 2022 involved guns, according to the study.

The Public Policy Institute of California also noted that in the same period, 40 percent of San Joaquin County's recorded aggravated assaults involved firearms, "which is notably higher than other large counties".

In all, 28% of Alameda County's aggravated assaults and less than 15% of similar cases in San Mateo County also involved firearms, the study disclosed.

The study can be found at www.ppic.org.

California has the strictest firearm laws among states in the U.S., with its Legislature proposing and approving multiple bills aimed at addressing the prevalence of guns. Violent crimes in the state, however, have been soaring since 2019, with over half of recent crime numbers involving firearms, the Public Policy Institute of California noted.

In June, Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed a constitutional amendment to enshrine gun safety measures nationally. His proposed 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution includes four gun safety measures that are already part of California law: universal background checks, raising the firearm purchase age to 21, instituting a firearm purchase waiting period and barring the civilian purchase of assault weapons.

—Gabe Agcaoli, Bay City News

- A \$50,000 grant awarded to the Livermore Police Department

seeks to reduce alcohol-related harm in the community.

"This is important to the City of Livermore in order to increase protection for youth and to address crime at problem locations," Police Chief Jeramy Young said in a recent statement announcing the award from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

The grant is one of nearly 50 awarded in California to local law enforcement agencies through ABC's Alcohol Policing Partnership program.

These grants aim to support local law enforcement efforts by combining theirs with ABC agents who have expertise in alcoholic beverage laws to help curb alcohol-related harm, according to LPD's statement.

"The Alcohol Policing Partnership program can improve the quality of life in neighborhoods," ABC Director Eric Hirata said in a statement. "We've seen a real difference in the communities where the grant program's resources have been invested."

The APP program was created in 1995 to strengthen partnerships between ABC and local law enforcement agencies.

LPD officials said the funds will be used to help prevent alcoholic beverage sales to minors and obviously intoxicated patrons, illegal solicitations of alcohol and other criminal activities such as the sale and possession of illegal drugs. ■

—Cierra Bailey

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Sept. 21

Theft from auto

- 3:16 a.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive
- 7:06 a.m. on the 1200 block of Quarry Lane
- 7:14 a.m. on the 4800 block of Mason Street
- 7:48 a.m. on the 2200 block of Tanager Drive
- 8:20 a.m. on the 5600 block of Gibraltar Drive
- 8:37 a.m. on the 4700 block of Mason Street
- 9:12 a.m. on the 2200 block of Tanager Drive
- 5:28 p.m. on the 1800 block of Foxswallow Circle

Other thefts

- 8:46 a.m. at Mohr Avenue and Tanager Drive, auto theft
- 10:20 a.m. on the 6600 block of Singletree Way
- 11:40 a.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive
- 5:44 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Drug violation

- 2:28 a.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Vandalism

- 8:03 a.m. on the 7000 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:17 a.m. on the 7100 block of Johnson Drive
- 10:20 a.m. on the 2500 block of Tanager Drive

Domestic battery

- 10:02 p.m. on Westbridge Lane

Sept. 20

Warrant arrest

- 8:42 a.m. on the 11500 block of Dublin Canyon Road

Burglary

- 9:01 a.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

Vandalism

- 1:27 p.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Theft

- 1:47 p.m. on the 5400 block of Sunol Boulevard
- 3:20 p.m., 5600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 5:21 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 5:32 p.m. on the 1500 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 19

Theft

- 7:15 a.m., 3200 block of Melanie Circle; auto theft
- 1:22 p.m., 7900 block of Stoneridge Drive; auto theft
- 4:50 p.m. on the 4700 block of Willow Road

Vandalism

- 10:36 a.m. on the 3200 block of Clifford Circle

Warrant arrest

- 2:53 p.m. on the 6700 block of Santa Rita Road

Drug violation

- 5:27 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Sept. 18

Burglary

- 1:23 a.m. on the 5300 block of Case Avenue

Domestic battery

- 8:37 a.m. on Hopyard Road

Theft

- 9:02 a.m., 7000 block of Johnson Drive; auto theft
- 4:03 p.m. on the 2700 block of Stoneridge Drive
- 6:41 p.m. on the 6100 block of Stoneridge Drive
- 6:43 p.m. on the 400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Vandalism

- 11:59 a.m. on the 5500 block of Johnson Drive

Sept. 17

Domestic battery

- 1:51 a.m. on Riviera Court

Theft

- 10:04 a.m. on the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- 4:16 p.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

DUI

- 7:07 p.m. at Kamp and Helen drives

Assault/battery

- 7:28 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Burglary

- 8:30 p.m. on the 2100 block of Black Oak Court

Sept. 16

Graffiti offense

- 8:38 a.m. at Birch Creek Drive and Birch Creek Terrace

Theft from auto

- 5:09 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Weapons violation

- 6:49 p.m. on the 4300 block of Second Street



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Underdog Falcons top Dons 12-7 in football rivalry game

Also: Highlights from volleyball, water polo, tennis

Quite simply, it's why they play the games.

Heading into last Friday's Foothill at Amador Valley non-league football game (the two are different divisions of the East Bay Athletic League, thus the midseason game), few outside of the Foothill locker room gave the Falcons a chance.

And it was with good reason, as the Falcons were 0-3 on the season and were coming off a 35-0 loss to El Cerrito, a team Amador fell to 14-7 in their season opener.

Amador, on the other hand, just posted its most impressive performance of the season — a 41-34 win over Monte Vista.

I thought Amador was the much stronger team, but when this rivalry comes to be each year, anything can

and often does happen.

Friday's final: Foothill 12, Amador Valley 7.

I have seen maybe 35 Amador-Foothill games, and it seems like whichever team is the underdog comes out on top.

Arguably the hero of the game last week was Foothill linebacker Jake Patterson.

Middle linebacker is one of the most punishing positions and Patterson plays it well. What made him the hero Friday was the job he did running the football.

Technically, Patterson is the No. 6 option at running back for the following reasons: Jackson Chandler (injury), Samear Lattier (transfer), Dylan Sousa (opted to play baseball), Charlie Stearns (injured) and Isaac Amiri (injured) were the top

five options heading into the season at running back.

But here was Patterson, playing running back and playing it just like a middle linebacker would — bashing and pounding the ball throughout the game through the Amador defense.

His runs in the final series of the game iced it for Foothill. All bruising right through the teeth of the Amador defense.

Foothill faces Livermore this week before jumping into Mountain Division play where the Falcons will face the gauntlet of Monte Vista, Clayton Valley, De La Salle, San Ramon Valley and California.

The Dons have a week off then open Valley Division play against Dougherty Valley.

Amador fans don't need to be talked off the ledge. The Dons are going to be just fine and are still the prohibitive favorites to win the East Bay Athletic League's Valley crown.

Now that they get transfer quarterback Tristin Tia back, as well as his cousin, lineman Paul Tia, I fully expect the Dons to make a deep run in the North Coast Section playoffs.

Foothill girls' volleyball

In what Foothill coach Dusty Collins is calling one of the best weeks in his long tenure as the Falcons leader, Foothill took a pair of EBAL matches, then won a tournament over the weekend.

First up was a big showdown with Amador — the team that provided the lone blemish on the Falcons record. Foothill got even with a 25-13, 24-26, 25-16, 24-26, 15-12 win.

Highlights came from Paige Bennett (29 kills, 14 digs, 10 service points), Katie Salonga (61 assists, 10 digs), Kaycie Burdick (17 kills, 14 digs), Kait Vogel (20 digs, 12 service points) and Ema Vukojevic (9 kills, 1 block).

Next was a 25-18, 25-15, 25-18 win over Granada. Highlights were provided by Sophia Burdick (13 kills, 6 digs), Paige Nelson (5 kills, 1 block) and Lulu Hoenninger (4 kills).

Last Saturday, the Falcons took the Sonoma Valley Paganini Varsity Tournament going 6-0 without dropping a set.

In pool play, Foothill beat Del Norte 2-0, Sonoma Valley 2-0 and Acalanes 2-0.

In the quarterfinals they dumped



JEFF SILVERSMITH

Foothill running back Jake Patterson (5) celebrates after getting a game-clinching first down in the Falcons' 12-7 win over the Amador Valley Dons.

Terra Linda 2-0, and in the semifinals they took out Ukiah 2-0. The championship saw Foothill continue with a 2-0 win over Redwood. Salonga was placed on the All-Tournament team and named the MVP of the tournament.

Amador girls' water polo

The Dons got six goals from Susan Swyers and four from Abigail Jones in a 15-6 win over Livermore.

Maya Amiel added three, with Olivia Vollgraf and Tanishka Tambe scoring one each. Deepika Suresh had eight saves for the Dons.

Amador-Foothill girls' tennis

The Falcons took the crosstown match 5-4 when the No. 6 singles' came down to an 11-9 tiebreak.

The deciding match came when Hayden Lu edged Chloe Fan in a 3-6, 6-3 (11-9) thriller.

Sagarika Kashyap got a win for the Falcons with a 6-1, 6-1 win over

Vedika Gowda. Isabelle Kang won 6-1, 6-4 over Aashivi Geddam for another Foothill win.

Foothill also got singles' win from Michelle Lee who topped Megha Reddy 6-0, 6-1. The Falcons doubles team of Priscilla Lam/Lanie Win beat Harushie Raj/Sydney So 6-1, 6-4.

For the Dons, Montana Parkinson-Lubold kept her winning ways intact with a 6-1, 6-1 win against Maya Wu. Neha Reddy pulled out a 3-6, 6-2 (10-1) win over Amelia Umentu to give the Dons another win.

In doubles, Alayna West/Aditi Deshpande of Amador beat Clara Song/Nika Naik 6-3, 6-4. Finally, the team of Avital Belau/Rhea Anand beat Grace Mundadan/Arya Nair 6-3, 6-4 to give the Dons their other win. ■

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.



CHRISTOPHER LAM

Foothill players gather around the Pleasanton Rivalry Cup after their win over crosstown Amador on Sept. 22.

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Entertainment

A JAZZ TRIBUTE TO 100 YEARS OF DISNEY This one-of-a-kind performance will transport you to the magical world of Disney with jazz arrangements of classic tunes from beloved movies. 8 p.m., Sept. 29. Tickets \$60-\$90. Visit livermorearts.org.

AARON LAVIGNE AT THE FIREHOUSE Aaron LaVigne grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio where his love of music started before he could speak. The Beach Boys and Motown Artists taught him the language of music while inspiring him to sing, pick up multiple musical instruments and write songs. 8 p.m., Sept. 29. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

JARED FREIBURG FEATURING SPINOUT Jared Freiburg returns for a memorable journey through the golden era of American music with an electric lineup of favorite rock 'n' roll, blues, country and jazz hits from the 1950s, 8 p.m., Sept. 30. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

JAZZ AT INKLINGS Featured guest singer is Marina Crouse performing with Matt Finder's Trio. Seating is limited. Reservations by email at info@pleasantonjazzsociety.com. 6-7:30 p.m., Sept. 30. 533 Main St.

POPS ON THE GREEN Bring family and friends with a picnic basket, blanket or lawn chairs to enjoy POPS on the Green with the Livermore-Amador Symphony. Enjoy an hour of popular music from film, Broadway and more where kids will be invited to conduct the symphony. 3-4 p.m., Sept. 30. Free. In front of the Bankhead Theater.

FUNNY WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE Get ready to laugh out loud in this hilarious show featuring a lineup of some of the funniest female comedians over 50, including Carole Montgomery, Cathy Ladman, Leighann Lord and Barb North. 8 p.m., Oct. 6. Tickets \$50-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

TONY FURTADO AT THE FIREHOUSE Tony Furtado is an evocative and soulful singer, a wide-ranging songwriter and a virtuoso multi-instrumentalist adept on banjo, cello-banjo, slide guitar and baritone ukulele. 8 p.m., Oct. 6. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

OF MICE AND MEN Livermore Valley Opera presents this tragic story of two displaced migrant ranch workers in California during the Great Depression. The drama and powerful music will grip your heartstrings. Oct. 7-8; 14-15. Tickets \$20-\$105. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS Don't miss the chance to see Bill Medley and Bucky Heard as they perform their timeless hits. Get ready for a night of unforgettable music and memories that will last a lifetime. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 11-12. Tickets \$95-\$130. Visit livermorearts.org.

KELLEN ERSKINE COMEDY Kellen was named one of TBS's Top Ten Comics to Watch in 2017 and has garnered over 50 million views with his clips on Dry Bar Comedy. 8 p.m., Oct. 13. Tickets \$25-\$35. Visit firehousearts.org.

PERUVIAN DANCE AND MUSIC Enjoy Peruvian dance and music performance by Tradición Peruana and learn about Peruvian art, culture and the traditions of the diverse Indigenous and Afro-Peruvian communities. 3 p.m., Oct. 13. Rincon Library.

PIRATES OF EMERSON Pirates of Emerson Haunted Theme Park returns to the Alameda County Fairgrounds for scary good fun. This walk through event is Northern California's premier haunted attraction. Sept. 29-Oct. 31. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Galas

TAILS AT TWILIGHT Valley Humane Society's 9th annual Tails at Twilight gala celebrates the pets who touch our lives. Join for a swingin' sock hop which jumps off with a champagne reception and delicious hors d'oeuvres, followed by an elegant seated dinner. 6-11 p.m., Sept. 30. Palm Event Center, Pleasanton. Tickets \$175. Visit valleyhumane.org.

MOONLIGHT AT THE MUSEUM At Sunflower Hills biggest fundraiser of the year guests will enjoy appetizers, dinner, games, raffles, live/silent auction, engaging speakers, dancing and more. 6-11 p.m., Sept. 30. Tickets \$195. Blackhawk Museum. Visit sunflowerhill.org.

CHEST OF HOPE GALA EVENT Chest of Hope, whose mission is to build community awareness about domestic violence and empower the lives of the people they serve, is hosting their 4th Chest of Hope Gala. Dinner, dancing, live and silent auction. 6 p.m., Oct. 14. Tickets \$110. Garre Vineyard. Visit chestofhope.org.

Museums & Exhibits

TASTE OF AFRICA FESTIVAL Cheza Nami Foundation presents the 11th annual Taste of Africa Festival. This free, outdoor festival showcases musical and dance performances by local African and African diaspora artists, art exhibits, food, African marketplace, a kidzone reading corner and more. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Oct. 7. Bankhead Plaza.

FILIPINO BARRIO FIESTA Celebrate Filipinx American History Month through art, food, music, dance, history and culture at this free event at the Bankhead Plaza. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Oct. 8. Visit livermorearts.org.

ARTWALK LIVERMORE Look for ArtWalk in the Bankhead Plaza, down First Street, and through Livermorium Park. Handmade and original works by over 200 artists can be enjoyed, as

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Meet Kelsi

Kelsi the cutie is an adorable, 6-month-old puppy. She's a nice, medium-size Border Collie/Terrier mix with beautiful eyes and a happy face. She loves everyone and will shower you with kisses if you let her. Once you meet her, you'll be totally smitten! Kelsi is available for adoption through Tri-Valley Animal Rescue; visit tvar.org.

well as live music, cultural arts demonstrations, and crafts for children. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Oct. 14.

Exhibits

THE DON CENTURY EXHIBIT As Amador Valley High School celebrates its centennial this fall, Museum on Main will exhibit memorabilia and artifacts from throughout the school's history with clips from interviews with alumni and current and former faculty and staff. Open through Oct 7. 603 Main St. Visit museumonmain.org.

COMIC CROSSING: THE ART OF THE GRAPHIC NARRATIVE A multimedia art exhibit featuring a collection of visually stunning and emotionally compelling graphic novels, comics, and illustrations. Thursdays-Sundays, 1-5 p.m., through Oct. 8. Uncle Credit Union Art Gallery.

LIVERMORE ART ASSOCIATION The Livermore Civic Center Library will showcase artwork from the Livermore Art Association, "Nature's Gifts". Oct. 1-31. Visit livermoreartassociation.org.

Talks

COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH AUTHOR KERRI MAHER Join for Coffee & Conversation with author Kerri Maher discussing her new book "All You Have to Do Is Call". 11 a.m., Sept. 29. The Last Word,

2470 First St 100, Livermore. Cost \$5. Visit townecenterbooks.com.

ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM Faith Alpher will kick off the program with a presentation on bullying prevention for teens and parents. Dr. Scott Kerlin will discuss the effects of workplace bullying and toxic work environments on employee performance, health and personal matters. 7 p.m., Oct. 2. Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH MARY SHELLY Mary Shelley may be best known as the author of Frankenstein. See how Shelley painted her own personal experience with a vivid imagination to build this original and enduring work of science fiction. 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., Oct. 3. Tickets \$15-\$25. Firehouse Arts Center Visit museumonmain.org.

THEN & NOW: LIVERMORE STORIES Joseph Alvarado will present a program entitled "Historical Markers of Alameda County". He volunteers as a contributing editor for The Historical Marker Database, which enables him to combine his interests in history, photography and research. 7 p.m., Oct. 4. Civic Center Library.

BRIDGING THE GAP PRESENTED BY TVNPA'S ANTI-POVERTY COLLABORATIVE Bridging the Gap is more than just an event,

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

Employment

Sr. Project Eng'r, San Ramon, CA. Lead regional utility & industrial protection srvc. Calculate settings for relays, substation & distribution line regulators, etc. Execute testing & commissioning srvc. Evaluate & understand/create protection philosophies. Mail resumes to C. Ortiz, Entrust Solutions Group, LLC, 28100 Torch Parkway, Suite 400, Warrenville, IL 60555.

Safeway Inc. hiring Principal Data Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute reports to Pleasanton. **Travel 1-2x/yr domestically for business meetings.** Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$215,197-230k/yr. Email resume TA.Applications@albertsons.com. Attn: S. Taylor. Ref # 0913MJK

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

it's a critical effort to confront and address the community's multifaceted challenges surrounding poverty, healthcare, education, affordable housing, food security and economic justice. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Oct. 5. Bankhead Theater. Visit tvnpa.org.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY In this zoom presentation Pam Vestal, a full-time genealogist and lecturer in Oregon, will discuss challenges faced when writing family histories and how to turn the bare facts into tales worthy of being read and by digging deeply into the genealogical details,

bringing our ancestors' stories to life. 7-8:30 p.m., Oct. 9. Visit l-ag.s.org.

HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets in-person and virtually via Zoom. Overcome fear of speaking in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Visit haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org.

Trade Shows

FALL MANUFACTURERS RV SHOW Show participants offer show-only deals on many new, top-of-the-line (and used) RVs, Motor Homes, 5th Wheels, Trailers, Toy-Haulers and more. Sept. 23-Oct. 1. Tickets \$13-\$15. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

ALAMEDA FALL HOME SHOW Get ideas at hundreds of exhibits to help turn your house into the home of your dreams. See the newest in custom kitchens and baths, windows and doors, heating and air, custom backyards and floors, landscaping displays and more. Oct. 6-8. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

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.

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.

Outdoor Rec

REGISTER FOR PACE FOR PEACE RUN/WALK Register now for Tri-Valley Haven's annual Pace For Peace 5K/10K with all proceeds

helping survivors of domestic violence. 8 a.m., Oct. 7. 3663 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Visit trivalleyhaven.org/pace-for-peace.

LET'S TALK BATS Join an LARPD ranger to discuss the basics of the world's only true flying mammal and their cousins around the world. 5 p.m., Oct. 14. Register larpd.org.

RANGER TALK ON MOUNTAIN LIONS Join an LARPD Ranger and learn about the mountain lion. Discuss their lineage in North America, evolutionary adaptations that make them stealthy hunters and maybe even share some personal stories about these majestic creatures. 2 p.m., Oct. 15. Sycamore Grove Park. Visit larpd.org.

Public Notices

VALUE PRINTING COMPANY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600741
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Value Printing Company, located at 4552 Alhambra Drive Fremont, CA 94536, Alameda. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
MICHAEL DARDIS
4552 Alhambra Dr.
Fremont, CA 94536
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/01/2000
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 13 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

COLES MARKET
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600563
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Coles market, located at 4277 First St. Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
B MAROK ENTERPRISES INC
600 MARIE ANGELA DR TRACY CA 95377 CA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 05 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

SUPERIOR FENCE AND RAIL OF EAST BAY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600572
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Superior Fence and Rail of East Bay, located at 6678 Sierra Lane Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CAL EAST LLC
670 Sycamore Rd.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/25/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 06 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

GOUS TOUR AGENCY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600591
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) GOUS TOUR AGENCY, located at 7660 GLENBROOK CT PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HYUNG KEUN KIM
7660 GLENBROOK CT
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 06 2023. (PLW Sep 15, 22, 29 and Oct 6, 2023)

ALLG SOLUTIONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600751
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) ALLG SOLUTIONS, located at 4349 DIAVILA AVE, PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PINHAO QIU
4349 DIAVILA AVE
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 13 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

VINOCONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600759
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Vinocons, located at 43575 Mission Blvd. #502 Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda. Mailing Address: 44560 Montclair Ct., Fremont, CA 94539
This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GREGORY GREEN
44560 Montclair Ct.
Fremont, CA 94539
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 September 14 2023. (PLW Sep 29, Oct 6, 13 and 20, 2023)

GK CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600777
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) GK Construction, located at 8351 Regency Drive. Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GARY KNOWLES
8351 Regency Drive.
Pleasanton, CA 94588
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 14 2023. (PLW Sep 29, Oct 6, 13 and 20, 2023)

ABA SHINE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600307
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) ABA SHINE, located at 44093 S Grimmer Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ABA SHINE
44093 S Grimmer Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538
Fremont, CA 94538
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/08/2023
This statement was filed with the County

Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 24 2023. (PLW Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

LIONSUN INTERNATIONAL LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600523
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Lionsun International LLC, located at 236 Rachael Pl, Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LIONSUN INTERNATIONAL LLC
236 Rachael Pl, Pleasanton CA 94566
California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 01 2023. (PLW Sep 15, 22, 29 and Oct 6, 2023)

MILI'S HANDCRAFTS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600618
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Mili's Handcrafts, located at 3932 Alma Ct. Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SRYAM LLC
3932 Alma Ct.
Pleasanton, CA 94588
CA
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 September 07 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

HOLIDAY ORCHARD
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 599820
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Holiday Orchard, located at 6088 Sunol Blvd Suite 111, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda. Mailing address: PO BOX 1705, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PHILLIPS YEE
6865 Corte Munras
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/03/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 03 2023. (PLW Sep 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

HEARTS FORWARD
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600597
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Hearts Forward, located at 600 Canyon Oaks Drive, unit D, Oakland, CA 94605, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CHARLIE REBICH
600 Canyon Oaks Drive, unit D, Oakland, CA 94605
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 September 06 2023. (PLW Sep 22, 29, Oct 6 and 13, 2023)

TO ALL TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
McKnight v. McKnight CH216881 as follows: 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 request for an elisor to sign the Stipulated Domestic Relations Order on behalf of Respondent should not be granted. Any person objecting to the request described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least nine court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the request should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the request without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: October 16, 2023 at 9:00 am, Dept: 507 Family Law. filed on: August 11, 2023 (pub dates: Sep 15, Sep 22, Sep 29, Oct 6) (PLW Sep 15, 22, 29 and Oct 6, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ARTHUR JEFFREY BROWN
Case No.: RP23147034
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ARTHUR JEFFREY BROWN.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: ALBERT BROWN, JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that: ALBERT BROWN, JR. 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 October 11, 2023 at 9:45AM in Dept. 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of

the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioner in Pro Per:
Albert Brown, Jr.
2120 10th Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
415-763-7766
(PLW Sep 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
STEVE SOVIERO, STEPHEN V SOVIERO
Case No.: 23PRO43171
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of STEVE SOVIERO, STEPHEN V SOVIERO. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: WEI SOVIERO in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. The Petition for Probate requests that: WEI SOVIERO 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 October 13 2023 at 9:45 AM in Dept. 20 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Petitioner in Pro Per:
Wei Soviero
3471 Dennis Dr.
Pleasanton, CA 94588
925-353-4316
(PLW Sep 22, 29 and Oct 6, 2023)

Place a legal notice at PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

Scammers trying to sell homes they don't own is on the rise

Tips for how to protect yourself from 'vacant lot fraud'

A new scam targeting vacant properties is on the rise in California.

According to a warning issued by the California Department of Real Estate, scammers posing as property owners have been contacting real estate agents and requesting their assistance to sell vacant homes and land they don't own.

Known as "vacant land scam" or "vacant lot fraud," this fraudulent real estate scheme was initially reported on the East Coast and made its way to California at the start of this year. Law enforcement agencies and district attorney's offices around California have reported a sharp increase in this type of fraud in recent months.

In this hoax, the criminal searches public records to identify owners of real estate that is free of mortgage or other liens. Most often, vacant lots and investment, vacation or rental properties that are not occupied by the owner are targeted. The scammer will then pose as the owner and contact a real estate agent to list the property for sale with the intent of pocketing the sales proceeds.

These scammers typically say they cannot personally meet with either the listing agent or buyer of the property because they either live in another state or abroad or are traveling.

The criminal takes advantage of e-notaries and online communications, attempts to defraud the actual owner, the buyer and every service provider involved by selling the property under market value with an exceptionally quick escrow, according to a press release from the California Association of Realtors that was issued in June after the trade association received several calls on its legal hotline from agents who were suspicious that the person who signed their listing was not the actual owner.

The scam usually goes undiscovered until the sale closes and the transfer documents are recorded with the county. This scheme has particularly affected the elderly and foreign real estate property owners as there are no means to automatically notify the legitimate owners, according to state officials.

In one case, the "seller" electronically signed the listing contract, disclosures and a purchase and sales agreement with a cash buyer. The

scam was averted before the documents were notarized because a family member contacted the real owner of the property after noticing it was listed for sale.

"Owners of vacant properties should check on their property on a regular basis," Jim Hamilton, president of the Silicon Valley Association of Realtors, said. "If they live out of state or overseas, it would be a good idea to keep in touch with a broker whom they trust and neighbors or relatives who live near the property."

Be aware of these 'red flags'

These criminals usually use a number of tactics designed to keep their crimes from being discovered until it's too late. The Department of Real Estate is urging homebuyers and real estate professionals to watch out for these tactics:

- Seller requests that the property be listed below market value to generate immediate interest.
- Seller requests that no "For Sale" sign be posted on the property.

• Seller requests preference for a cash buyer, quickly accepts an offer and demands a quick closing.

• Seller refuses to meet in person, preferring to be contacted through email, text or over phone and typically refuses video calls.

• Seller refuses to attend the signing and claims to be out of the state or country.

• Seller demands to use their own notary, who then provides falsified documents to the title company or closing attorney.

• Seller insists that proceeds are wired to them.

"These characteristics may not be red flags on their own, but when several or most occur, the risk becomes more apparent. Unfortunately, this scam is usually only discovered once the transfer of documents has been recorded with the appropriate county," Hamilton said.

Those who believe a scam is occurring or are victims of real estate fraud, should report the crime to law enforcement authorities or the local district attorney's office where the fraud occurred. ■

—Silicon Valley Association of Realtors

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Aug. 7-17 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Aug. 14-25 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 7815 Canyon Meadow Circle #G** N. Haycock to Sohm Trust for \$675,000
- 1413 Chadbourn Court** ShaLLCross Trust to D. & D. Camp for \$2,455,000
- 5214 Crestline Way** Sahasrabudhe-Joshi Trust to A. & A. Ravi for \$1,875,000
- 7634 Fairoaks Drive** Sivo Living Trust to Neelagiri Family Trust for \$1,775,000
- 5006 Hummingbird Road** Soppet Family Trust to N. & C. Singh for \$1,888,000
- 5838 West Las Positas Boulevard** L. Tam to M. & A. Chow for \$1,185,000
- 4783 Saginaw Circle** Miller Trust to Dizon-Manibo Trust for \$725,000
- 7478 Alder Court A.** Zlotnikov to Adiraju Family Trust for \$1,937,000
- 4241 Cabernet Court** Smith Trust to A. & K. Govindasamy for \$1,870,000
- 569 Dolores Place** Bonasera Family Trust to Ford Trust for \$2,225,000
- 4193 Grant Court** Lesser Trust to A. & S. Sharma for \$3,010,000
- 7473 Hillview Court** Miick Trust to T. & L. Do for \$1,400,000
- 3513 Kamp Drive** Araiza-Scott Family Trust to Patel Family Trust for \$2,170,000
- 3270 West Las Positas Boulevard** R. Yedavilli to P. & S. Subbiah for \$1,290,000
- 246 Mavis Drive** J. Mckeehan to Gemmer Trust for \$1,225,000
- 4126 Peregrine Way** Burson Living Trust to A. & V. Katoch for \$1,237,000
- 1124 Piemonte Drive** C. Peng to T. & P. Kalra for \$4,439,000
- 7190 Rosecliff Court** K. & S. Velu to Terrace Trust for \$3,440,000
- 4009 San Giorgio Court** A. Anumula to H. & W. Huang for \$875,000
- 1034 Via Di Salerno** Chan Family Trust to D. & S. Lu for \$3,450,000
- 4898 Wingate Drive** Olsen Family Trust to Packard Trust for \$1,840,000

Livermore

- 5609 Carnegie Way** M. & G. Nowak to Agarwal Family Trust for \$1,825,000

- 1202 Cromwell Street** Wilson Family Trust to K. & A. Daar for \$1,300,000
- 4249 Findlay Way** A. & R. Muyskens to F. Tejada for \$1,375,000
- 465 North I Street** Hagan Trust to Blue Skyline Prop Grp LLC for \$835,000
- 809 Nightingale Street** Glass Living Trust to C. & V. Rayate for \$950,000
- 2793 San Minete Drive** A. Pi to S. & V. Verma for \$2,088,000
- 834 Seminole Drive** S. Stadelman to A. & A. Katge for \$1,080,000
- 625 Alameda Drive** A. & N. Correa to S. & A. Lalchandani for \$1,225,000
- 6316 Altamar Circle** Arneson Family Trust to M. & K. Motiani for \$1,425,000
- 2174 Buckskin Road** S. & A. Hansen to P. & H. Mahapatra for \$1,050,000
- 772 Camden Common** K. & J. Meek to Tri Valley Reach for \$321,500
- 3936 Dartmouth Way** K. & C. Pehargou to L. & J. Harvey for \$1,175,000
- 2135 Gabriella Lane** B. & L. Hua to Mistry-Batra Trust for \$2,375,000
- 5764 Idlewild Avenue** M. & S. Gallagher to Janice Marciel Trust for \$1,025,000
- 773 Los Alamos Avenue** Z. & A. Nisbet to C. & K. Whitehand for \$1,315,000
- 1070 Madrone Way** Callow Trust to M. & B. Verma for \$1,125,000
- 1422 Mimosa Street** Mistry-Batra Trust to Lakshmi-Sekar Trust for \$1,680,000
- 1061 Miranda Way** E. Epifanovskiy to D. & H. Singh for \$1,060,000
- 425 Mulqueeny Street** Stein Trust to Jonsson Family Trust for \$1,109,000
- 579 Ruby Road** Hack Family Trust to J. Resnick for \$1,328,000
- 436 Selby Lane** H. Kim to S. & C. Cheung for \$1,128,000
- 2852 Tahoe Drive** Frost Trust to M. & S. Stadelman for \$1,650,000
- 3628 Thornhill Drive** Coulson Trust to Baxter Trust for \$1,730,000
- 95 Windward Common #3** W. Smith to C. & S. Alvarez for \$760,000

Dublin

- 5561 Dublin Boulevard** Simran Trust to Mitra Living Trust for \$1,097,000
- 3662 Finnian Way** Perumbeti Family Trust to A. & R. Nair for \$895,000

- 2005 Haggerty Drive** C. Fonseca to S. & Y. Ying for \$2,023,000
- 7291 Lemberg Hills Drive** P. Woo to S. & S. Narra for \$2,800,000
- 6567 South Mariposa Court** Rashid Trust to R. & M. Saini for \$1,160,000
- 4462 Mazzoni Terrace** W. Anderson to S. & L. Garlapati for \$1,656,000
- 2503 Bassetts Way** S. Lin to S. & N. Rudrawar for \$2,449,000
- 4644 Central Parkway #35** Mayalona Trust to A. & K. Bharadwaj for \$1,090,000
- 3275 Dublin Boulevard #329** A. Hu to R. Daniel for \$810,000
- 7090 Dublin Meadows Street #C** S. Mishra to Lqbal Family Trust for \$720,000
- 3360 Maguire Way #301** H. Ling to N. Tong for \$780,000
- 3360 Maguire Way #408** A. Oveisi to A. & B. Brako for \$800,000
- 4072 Panorama Drive** K. & P. Le to S. & N. Kapoor for \$1,210,000
- 6170 Shadow Hill Drive** F. Pan to N. & B. Ghobrial for \$1,500,000

San Ramon

- 2361 Barbados Drive** L. & C. Yaldezian to D. & N. Kanyal for \$1,715,000
- 105 Black Calla Court** H. Lee to J. & P. Zhao for \$1,835,000
- 3228 Browntail Way** S. Sivakaminathan to D. & R. Karuppaiah for \$1,500,000
- 421 Carillo Court** Olsen Living Trust to Z. & A. Nisbet for \$585,000

- 45 Chaucer Court** Padden Trust to J. & A. Jagoda for \$2,125,000
- 607 Destiny Lane** A. Laata to W. & D. Zhang for \$950,000
- 2699 Durango Lane** S. Deshpande to S. & S. Hari for \$1,475,000
- 1 Eucalyptus Lane** X. Jiang to P. & S. Dantkale for \$1,689,000
- 7522 Hillsboro Avenue** Louis Trust to Dilling Family Trust for \$1,550,000
- 6150 Lakeview Circle** Michael Trust to A. & N. Kumar for \$1,180,000
- 3064 Montevideo Drive** K. Waziri to F. & B. Sharma for \$1,550,000
- 2222 Morningson Lane** X. Wang to Rajeev Family Trust for \$2,210,000
- 200 Norris Canyon Place #D** S. Feinberg to A. Sanchez for \$720,000
- 2016 Sorrelwood Court** S. Bhowmick to S. & E. Loza for \$2,250,000
- 1032 Zebrina Way** A. Raj to M. Koo for \$1,610,000
- 9773 Alcosta Boulevard** W. Zhang to D. & S. Yelluru for \$1,625,000
- 3865 Aragon Lane** P. & M. Krumbuegel to P. & P. Gupta for \$1,510,000
- 440 Bollinger Canyon Lane #194** Young Living Trust to D. & G. Palanisamy for \$648,000
- 51 Eagle Lake Court #13** S. Nath to A. Jacob for \$890,000
- 119 Enchanted Way** V. & S. Battu to R. & G. Prothia for \$1,365,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Aug. 7-16)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$675,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,455,000
Average sales reported: \$1,951,714

Livermore (Aug. 7-16)

Total sales reported: 24
Lowest sale reported: \$321,500
Highest sale reported: \$2,375,000
Average sales reported: \$1,288,936

Dublin (Aug. 7-16)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$720,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,800,000
Average sales reported: \$1,356,428

San Ramon (Aug. 14-25)

Total sales reported: 32
Lowest sale reported: \$585,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,250,000
Average sales reported: \$1,555,312

Source: California REsource



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2398 BAY MEADOWS CIRCLE, PLEASANTON

3 BD | 2 BA | 1,421 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE

LISTED FOR \$1,249,000

ESTATES OF MOHR



**3513 KAMP DRIVE,
PLEASANTON**

3 BD + OFFICE | 2.5 BA
2,624 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$2,170,000

NORTHSIDE



**834 SEMINOLE DRIVE,
LIVERMORE**

3 BD | 2 BA
1,282 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$1,080,000

SHADOWBROOK



**2852 TAHOE DRIVE,
LIVERMORE**

4 BD | 3 BA
2,172 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$1,650,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

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



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SOLD



COMING SOON
Listed at \$1,449,000



3743 Kamp Drive, Pleasanton

COMING SOON
Listed at \$1,949,000



1533 Loganberry Way, Pleasanton

SOLD
Sold for \$1,610,000



38437 Jacaranda Drive, Newark

SOLD
Sold for \$1,900,000



6577 Stanton Court, Pleasanton

Alexis Venema
925.963.5446



SOLD
Representing Buyers
Sold for \$3,300,000



2347 Silver Oaks Lane, Pleasanton

SOLD
Representing Sellers & Buyers
Sold for \$4,660,000



3261 Novara Way, Ruby Hill

SOLD
Representing Sellers & Buyers
Sold for \$3,700,000



1976 Via Di Salerno, Ruby Hill

Michelle Kroger
925.785.3134



PENDING
Representing Buyers
Listed at \$1,679,000



5514 Black Avenue, Pleasanton

SOLD
Representing Buyers
Sold for \$1,775,000



7634 Fair Oaks Drive, Pleasanton

RECORD BREAKING SALE



1904 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill

Lisa Desmond
925.352.5065




SOLD
Representing Buyers
Sold for \$1,000,000



2610 Gapwall Court, Pleasanton

SOLD
Representing Buyers
Sold for \$3,700,000



1976 Via Di Salerno, Ruby Hill

★ SOLD FOR \$4,650,000 ★
★ \$864 PER SQUARE FOOT ★



Liz Venema & Brenda Meckenstock



Liz Venema
VENEMA HOMES TEAM



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



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3622 Diablo Court
Pleasanton
4bd/3ba, 3,065+/-sq.ft
21,490+/-sq.ft lot
OFFERED AT \$2,529,000



PENDING

5514 Black Avenue
Pleasanton
3bd/2.5ba, 1,950+/-sq.ft
6,752+/-sq.ft lot
OFFERED AT \$1,679,000



PENDING

2451 Sevillano Circle
Livermore
4bd/3.5ba, 3,704+/-sq ft
15,176+/-sq ft lot
OFFERED AT \$2,999,000



SOLD \$316K OVER ASKING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS

2436 Via De Los Milagros
Pleasanton
5bd/3ba, 3,837+/-sq.ft
18,701+/-sq.ft lot
SOLD FOR \$2,775,000



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