

Pleasanton Weekly

Recapture that lovin' feelin'

Page 14

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AN OPERATIC TAKE ON AN AMERICAN CLASSIC

Livermore Valley Opera presenting 'Of Mice and Men' on Bankhead stage

Page 13



- 5 | **NEWS** Pleasanton adopts first-ever Citywide Strategic Plan
- 5 | **NEWS** Workday Rising conference draws largest crowd yet
- 18 | **SPORTS** Falcons continue strong run on volleyball court



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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Searching for Sydney

Last weekend marked the third anniversary of the disappearance of Sydney "Syd" West, an unsolved case that has reverberated on both U.S. coasts for years but recently started to resonate throughout the country thanks to increased exposure from TV this summer.

Sydney, who was raised in Pleasanton for most of her childhood before her family moved to North Carolina midway through high school, was 19 years old and poised to study at the University of California at Berkeley after a deferral period when she was last seen on Sept. 30, 2020 near the Golden Gate Bridge in the area of Crissy Field in San Francisco.

Her whereabouts remain unknown. Surveillance video footage from around the bridge shows her for a time, but foggy and smoky conditions that morning make the visuals difficult to discern, according to the family. Her backpack was recovered in the area, but her cell-phone has not been located.

Her parents, Kimberly and Jay West, have diligently pursued answers, working with Bay Area private investigator Scott Dudek, pressing the San Francisco Police Department and sharing their message on social media and the "Find Sydney West" website.

They got an added boost on Aug. 27, when Sydney's story was spotlighted on the popular show "Disappeared" on the Investigation Discovery network. "A Vanishing at the Golden Gate State Bridge" was the debut episode of the program's 11th season.

"It was very difficult. It was very nerve-racking as well," Kimberly told me in a phone interview Tuesday reflecting on the experience filming the episode.

"As a parent, you need to do everything you can, so I was thankful for the opportunity. We knew it wasn't going to be easy. We had to go through and go back in time ... all of that was just extremely exhausting," she said. "But I felt proud, I guess that's the word, that I got through it."

The "Disappeared" feature has certainly served its purpose, reinvigorating interest in Sydney's case over the past seven weeks.

"The show has led to lots and lots of phone calls to our private investigator, so he's researching all of those," Kimberly said. "I'm so grateful, and it's amazing really after all of this time. And it helps balance out some

of the comments and criticisms" — because the messages the parents get "are not all warm and fuzzy."

One outcome from the TV appearance was the family connecting with WATE ("We Are The Essentials"), a group of former law enforcement and military service members based in Florida who aim to help locate missing persons. They gained national prominence two years ago for their efforts in the search for suspect Brian Laundrie in the Gabby Petito murder case.

WATE was out in the Bay Area last week investigating with a fresh eye, "walking through the steps again and interviewing a lot of the same people, but now three years later," Kimberly said. They are now reviewing their work and conducting more interviews before completing a final report.

Kimberly shared that the family and authorities have received a host of tips over the years, including several times where someone was "just so sure" they saw Sydney in their town, but to no avail.

They remain resolute, despite the lack of tangible progress. "We're a family who has another daughter, jobs ... we need to continue on the best we can," Kimberly told me.

That included processing the difficult reality of the calendar last week.

Jay West posted a heartfelt and heartbreaking video to Sydney via Facebook last Friday, three years to the day since the last time he conversed with her. You can see in his eyes, hear in his voice, the draining mix of emotions every parent hopes to avoid.

"Hey Syd", Jay says to open the two-minute message. "What I want to tell you is these days are so hard without you, and how we miss you so much and want you to come home."

He later adds, "I think we all recognize at this point the dangers in that you're not with us anymore, but yet again I find myself wondering where you are. You got all these people looking for you right now because you know there's, there's just nothing definitive. And it's my wish and prayer that you're out there, that you're healthy."

"Love you so much. Come home. Find your way," Jay says to close.

Anyone with information about Sydney West's whereabouts or who may have seen what happened in San Francisco on the morning of Sept. 30, 2020 can contact Dudek at 925-852-4204. ■

About the Cover

The ensemble cast of Livermore Valley Opera's "Of Mice and Men" production stand onstage during their first piano technical rehearsal on Monday evening. The show opens this Saturday and continues until Oct. 15 at the Bankhead Theater. Photo by Nicole Gonzales. Cover design by Douglas Young.

Vol. XXIV, Number 37

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

Where do you like to go when you need a little time to yourself for one reason or another?



Aboye Efebo
Administrative assistant

I like to escape to the panhandle of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. I'm able to clear my mind there and watch all of the people milling around, which I find very interesting. But I'm not expected to interact with them so it's very relaxing and recuperative.



Phil Griston
Global alliance director

When I feel a need to get away and be alone for a bit, I get into my car and find a reason to drive somewhere. It doesn't even matter where. Just being on the open road, heading anywhere at all, really helps me to clear my mind so that I can get back to everything and everyone who needs me, feeling very good and refreshed.



Lucas Mendoza
Busser

I like to get out in nature. Usually I'll go to a local park and either walk around or just sit by myself on a bench in order to think and reflect on what is making me want to be alone. Being able to do that really helps me to clear my head so that I can happily and productively return to my normal life.



Marc Lang and Janie
Airline pilot (captain)

Well, I can tell you for sure that it's not on a plane, or in a crowded airport, or in a hotel room far away. My preference when I feel a need to get away and be alone is to go to our weekend home near Yosemite. It overlooks Pine Mountain Lake, which is incredibly peaceful and quiet.



Greg Bingham *Physician assistant*

I like to exercise outdoors. It helps me to clear my head when I can disconnect from the external stimuli in my life by running, mountain biking, or even just hiking or walking. Being in the vastness of the great outdoors is very perspective-giving and makes me realize that whatever has me wanting to disconnect and be alone for a bit is probably nothing I should worry too much about.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Airport Open House

The Livermore Municipal Airport is set to host its 26th annual open house this Saturday (Oct. 7) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., inviting people of all ages to learn about aviation and regional services offered by the city-operated airport.

This year's free Airport Open House will feature "static display of general aviation, military/warbirds, antique/classic, experimental/homebuilt and aerobatic type aircraft; general aviation aircraft fly-bys, representatives from flight schools; airborne law enforcement and air rescue aircraft; LPFD safety house; LPD exhibits; aviation vendor display/information; and mobile gourmet food from the Food Truck Mafia," city officials said.

Weekends on Main

The final First Weekends on Main program of 2023 will take place from 5 p.m. this Friday through 9 p.m. Sunday in downtown Pleasanton, with Main Street closed to vehicular traffic during those hours.

Organized by the Pleasanton Downtown Association with approval from the city government, the program born from the COVID-19 pandemic aims to allow patrons to roam the street unencumbered and businesses to expand operations outdoors. The 2023 series ran from May through October, typically on the first full weekend of the month.

Special activities this weekend will include the second annual PDA Hot Rod Car Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

PPIE Fall Gala

The Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation is holding its Masquerade Fall Gala next Friday (Oct. 13) from 6-10 p.m. at The Club at Castlewood.

A major fundraiser for the non-profit that supports Pleasanton public schools, the gala will feature a wine pour reception, dinner, entertainment, live auction and dancing. Tickets are close to sold out, according to organizers. Go to ppie.org to learn more. ■

Corrections

The Sept. 22 What a Week column "Time for election fun" incorrectly described the State Senate districts in effect for the Tri-Valley on the 2024 election ballot. As a result of redistricting in 2021, the Tri-Valley will be split into two State Senate districts effective after this election: District 9 including the San Ramon Valley and District 5 including Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore. The Weekly regrets the error.

'ONE Pleasanton' — Council approves inaugural Citywide Strategic Plan

Staff now working on how to implement new five-year project prioritization process

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton's two-year process for identifying and prioritizing public projects, programs and policy initiatives will officially be a thing of the past after the City Council voted unanimously to adopt a new five-year Citywide Strategic Plan on Tuesday.

Now that the final draft of the plan, which has been named "ONE Pleasanton", has been approved, city staff will begin developing an implementation action plan that will identify key tasks and timelines in order to move the goals listed in the

strategic plan forward.

"I love the title ... it really speaks to this diverse community that we're all coming together, we all have common goals — even on the council," Mayor Karla Brown said during Tuesday's meeting.

In addition to the day-to-day operations, city staff are responsible for the consideration of different ideas, projects and services that are brought up by the public. Instead of approving these initiatives and activities throughout the year, the City Council had previously used a priority-setting process to better

leverage city resources in order to meet those needs.

The approved council priorities were presented as a two-year work plan that guided staff and helped with financial resource allocation. That process aligned with the city's two-year budgeting cycle and involved soliciting input from city commission and committee members, the City Council, and residents and other stakeholders to create new recommendations.

But because that two-year priority setting process had been in place for nearly 20 years under the

prior city manager, City Manager Gerry Beaudin told the council last November a new strategic plan would allow for a more streamlined five-year version of the process.

It was during that Nov. 15 meeting that the council authorized staff to develop the new five-year plan to replace the old biennial council work plan process.

Since then, staff have gathered input from the council, city employees and the public in order to develop the plan. They presented a

See **PLAN** on Page 7



COURTESY WORKDAY

Workday co-CEO Aneel Bhusri speaks to the crowd of thousands of attendees at this year's Workday Rising conference in San Francisco's Moscone Center.

Workday Rising conference draws largest crowd yet

Pleasanton software company celebrates growth, looks toward AI and future of the workplace

By JEANITA LYMAN

The Pleasanton-based enterprise software company Workday hosted its most recent and largest-ever conference in San Francisco last week, with thousands of attendees from across the range of companies that make up its customer base and target market flocking to the Moscone Center from Sept. 26-29.

This year's Workday Rising conference was centered on a hot topic across industries in recent

years — the future of the workplace amid developments in technology and artificial intelligence.

The event attracted approximately 15,000 attendees, making it the largest Workday Rising conference in the company's 18-year history since it first set foot into the marketplace from its home base in Pleasanton, according to company officials.

Since being established in 2005, the company has expanded and come to be adopted by a range of companies, including more

than half of those currently on the Fortune 500 list, co-founder and CEO Aneel Bhusri said in a keynote talk on Sept. 27, with Workday itself eyeing a place on that list by next year.

"The platform continues to expand with 5,000 core customers," Bhusri said. "But none of this growth happens without happy customers."

Although the widely discussed advancement of AI has given rise

See **WORKDAY** on Page 12

Pleasanton water supply alternatives

Staff eyes plan to build new wells beyond PFAS plume

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton city staff are close to finalizing a recommendation for the City Council to possibly design and build two new groundwater wells outside of the PFAS contaminant plume following initial discussions with the council last month.

While the council did not vote to officially go with that option of opening two new wells, as it will be set to do so during the Oct. 17 council meeting, several council members did voice their support for doing so despite also expressing some concerns about the so-called forever chemicals potentially being found in those future well locations.

"I definitely think the recommendation is spot on," Councilmember Jeff Nibert said during the Sept. 19 meeting. "But as you allude to, there is some level of uncertainty ... (the) two new wells may not turn out to be the best ones."

Staff had presented four different alternatives to the council that could potentially help the city meet its quota of producing 20% of the city's water supply — with the rest coming from the Zone 7 Water Agency. That quota was previously met by using the city's groundwater

See **SUPPLY** on Page 8

Former professor brings mental health classes to Vintage Hills

Program focuses on teaching coping skills to kids as young as fifth grade

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

After seeing so many older students suffer from depression and anxiety, one former Las Positas College professor has made it her mission to bring mental health awareness to parents, young adults and even elementary schoolers.

Siah Fried was a health, women's health and nutrition professor at Las Positas for 17 years before eventually teaching at a high school level in 2017. During that time, she said several students came to her saying they were experiencing different levels of depression.

"The students wanted to talk more and more each year about mental health, and more and more would pull me aside and say, 'I think I've got depression,'" Fried said. "I just was seeing it and it was really upsetting. It was still so stigmatized."

She had tried reaching out to principals across the Tri-Valley school districts to see what they could do about the growing epidemic, but she said that because of the lack of data surrounding mental health 10 to 15 years ago, she never heard back.

Fried said she didn't like seeing so many college students with depression or issues with anxiety, so she decided to do something about it. Her solution: Target kids at a younger age so that they have the skills to cope with mental health issues when they grow up.

Fried already had a side business where she would offer individual health and parent coaching — which she still does — but back then it was mostly centered around obesity and nutritional health.

But after the pandemic, she started incorporating mental health into her Flex-Able Minds program, which is when she saw a growing need for those services.

"I think the pandemic ... kind of leveled the playing field in the way that there were people who've never had depression before, or anxiety, who were getting it," Fried said. "I

think there was a little more compassion ... or empathy for people who deal with it a lot more. So I think that helped with the stigma."

While she still offers her services to anyone who needs them, Fried is slowly making more efforts to visit elementary schools so she could teach younger students better coping skills to deal with depression and anxiety, which is what she recently did at Vintage Hills Elementary School in Pleasanton.

Over the span of three one-hour sessions — one each week — Fried taught a class of fifth graders everything from the basic understanding of how the brain works to how to deal with stress and remain resilient when experiencing certain emotions.

The classes, which were funded by the school's parent teacher association, started the first week of September and went on for the next two weeks as Fried came back to teach the group of students.

"She does a good job of just sort of relating to them so it feels more fun and they're not falling asleep," Tammy Creighton, whose fifth-grade class participated in the classes, told the Weekly.

Fried had originally taught a session back in spring with the intent of preparing outgoing fifth graders for their transition to middle school.

"It was, for those kids who hadn't been in school for long, a big deal to come back here and then have to go back to ... middle school," Creighton said.

But the school brought Fried back this year to help teach the current group of students more social skills, which is something that Creighton said has been lacking since the pandemic.

She also said that the classes are beneficial simply because a lot of people — not just students — don't seem to know how to manage their emotions effectively, even before the pandemic.

"I can't imagine raising a kid in the middle of all of this right now

because it just seems like they're exposed to so much that they're not ready for," Creighton said. "They're 10 and 11, they're just not ready for so many of the things that they get exposed to."

And according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the data on young children regarding mental health has only been getting worse over the years as approximately 5.8 million kids ages 3 to 17 were diagnosed with anxiety from 2016 to 2019. For kids diagnosed with depression, that number was approximately 2.7 million.

That's why Creighton said it's been nice to see the students, who she knew might have been going through something, trying new coping skills that they learned from Fried and actually seeing results.

During her second session with Creighton's class on Sept. 8, Fried spoke to the kids as a small group and had them do breathing exercises on the floor, went over mindfulness practices and taught them how to recognize stressful moments in order to let them go.

Despite being an average group of restless fifth graders, the students seemed to be engaged with what Fried was talking about by asking questions and talking about their issues, which mostly revolved around not getting enough sleep — which is something that Fried has noticed with most kids that age.

"We spent like an extra 30 minutes on it that I wasn't planning on, because they really wanted to talk about it," Fried said. "Anxiety or depression can keep you from sleeping, or not sleeping can trigger anxiety and depression ... so I really, really need to stress to them the importance of getting that sleep."

She said she has helped the kids brainstorm ideas to help with that, which included wrapping themselves up in blankets or simply minimizing their screen times.

"One of the kids said, 'My mom always makes me put my phone down



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Siah Fried, a former Las Positas College health professor, teaches a mental health awareness class as part of her Flex-Able Minds program at Vintage Hills Elementary School on Sept. 8.

an hour before bed and now I know why," Fried said.

That statement also worked into her point that her program works best because it's held in a setting where kids are also interacting with themselves and they are hearing things like that from their own peers.

"There's research supporting how important health education is in the school setting for that exact reason," Fried said. "I cannot believe some of the things that students over the years have shared in front of their peers."

She also said that she is sometimes taken aback by how much mental health has become normalized in that now everyone from a high schooler to a fifth grader has access to school counselors and even therapists of their own.

"It still takes you off guard," Fried said. "I'm still adjusting because I still have friends who will not go into therapy."

She said that probably had something to do with the pandemic because of the high demand for mental health resources during that time when a lot of people needed it.

For kids specifically, she said she has also seen how the pandemic did a number on their mental health. But it also opened the doors for schools to start implementing things like wellness rooms, which gives students a space to be around other students in a socially healthy way.

While Fried has already started

talking to folks in Danville about possibly setting up some classes there, and even has a class scheduled in Dublin, she said schools continue to tell her that their counselors are taking care of mental health education.

But she said they still need help, mainly because the counselors aren't enough and the teachers already have enough on their plates.

"Every school district needs to be doing something to fulfill social emotional learning. But what I'm finding is ... they might do one mindfulness practice, and check it off," Fried said. "It's really important for the districts and the parents to understand that this isn't really being done."

She, however, said it isn't really the district's or school's fault because their counselors simply don't have the time for education and prevention when they are metaphorically having to put out fires.

"They're literally saving lives because kids are suicidal, they're coming in with panic attacks," she said. "The counselors are putting out the fires, I'm trying to prevent the fires," she said.

She said her work in educating kids at an early age is so important because it could prevent future generations from having to go through those same issues.

"There is a lot that can be done preventatively and I'm just not seeing it being done," Fried added. "It's frustrating." ■

Petition approved to collect signature for recall of DA Price

Group must secure names of 73,195 registered county voters to force election

BY RUTH DUSSEAULT / BCN

The Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office has approved a petition to collect signatures to recall District Attorney Pamela Price, who has faced a backlash against her progressive policies from opponents concerned about an increase in crime.

The group Save Alameda for Everyone (SAFE) announced the petition's approval last Friday. They will have 160 days from the date

of approval to gather enough handwritten signatures to bring the question to voters in a special election June 2024, according to the group.

One of their members is anti-crime activist Carl Chan, former president of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber. Chan



Pamela Price

recently called on Oakland businesses to participate in a one-day strike to voice their demand for greater public safety.

"District Attorney Pamela Price has absolutely failed the people of Alameda County. Crime is spiraling out of control. It's time to stand up for victims of crime and their families to bring justice back to Alameda County," Chan said.

Brenda Grisham, another principal in the group, said they will soon start training volunteers to collect

signatures. They will have until the end of February to submit 73,195 signatures from registered Alameda County voters.

"I'm African American, and I've been doing this for my son, who was killed 13 years ago," said Grisham.

She said her son was caught in the crossfire between gangs outside of a church on New Year's Eve in 2010.

She is a speaker for Ceasefire, a program run by the Oakland police to sensitize young people to the

victims of gun violence.

"I'm the only civilian in the room and I speak to these young people. They sit there telling you they're doing a crime on purpose. You can't just keep letting these killers out on the street. That's dangerous for them. Dangerous for the community," she said.

The District Attorney's Office was asked for comment, but it deferred to Price's political campaign, which had not responded as of press time. ■

Stoneridge Shopping Center welcoming seven new stores

Aldo, GNC, Tokyo Lifestyle among recently opened

By NICOLE GONZALES

Residents and visitors of Pleasanton will now be able to partake in a wider selection of shopping opportunities as the Stoneridge Shopping Center welcomed five new stores this summer, with two more set to open soon.

The five businesses that recently opened were Aldo, Andersen Bakery, GNC, ID Cafe and Tokyo Lifestyle. New establishments Perfume World and JD Sports join them during this month, according to mall officials.

"We're proud that these seven notable brands chose our center and know they will further enhance the experience our guests have when they shop and dine here," said Dee Gill, director of marketing and business development for the Stoneridge Shopping Center.

The shopping complex, opened in 1980, has been home to various retail, dining and lifestyle businesses through the years. Currently with over 160 stores selling everything from children's clothes to home furniture, the mall draws shoppers from across the region.



CITIZEN RELATIONS

Five new shops recently opened at Stoneridge Shopping Center, and two more are on the way this month.

"Stoneridge Shopping Center has maintained a robust mix of retail and dining options for local Bay Area residents and families to enjoy year-round," Gill added. "This diverse product range creates a more engaging and vibrant shopping environment, attracting a wider consumer demographic and generating increased foot traffic."

The center holds a prime location in the Tri-Valley, at the intersection of interstates 680 and 580 in Pleasanton and near the West

Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station. Simon Property Group, a retail real estate company, oversees store agreements at Stoneridge.

"Simon's leasing activity remains strong in 2023, and we continue to see demand for space from new and exciting national retailers," Gill said. "People love to touch, feel and try on products before they buy them and our new retailers provide locals and visitors alike a wider selection of recognizable and 'new-to-me' brands to experience." ■

PLAN

Continued from Page 5

draft to the council at an Aug. 24 workshop, which also helped them finalize the plan.

"This is the culmination of really months and months of work that really brought together both the Pleasanton community with the city staff and the council members and really reflects just a tremendous collaboration," deputy city manager Alexa Jeffress told the council on Tuesday.

While Jeffress pointed out that there wasn't much to discuss during the meeting, given that staff have been working with the council for months on the plan, she highlighted several key topics that staff came across when talking to all the stakeholders in the community.

She said some of the most notable themes from city employees were on infrastructure and maintenance of city facilities, improving technology systems and increasing staffing levels, all to better serve the growing demands of the community.

Apart from gathering internal input from the city, staff facilitated multiple focus groups, pop-up events and other community input events. Results from a recent community survey were also used in the development of the new strategic plan.

Staff also hosted two bilingual focus groups — one in Spanish and one in Mandarin — in order to gather more diverse community

member engagement to ensure that the strategic plan reflects the needs and priorities of all residents.

"Inclusive community engagement is really essential to ensure that our strategic plan reflects the voices of our entire community," Jeffress said. "Pleasanton is a diverse city. It's become more diverse over the past years, as our census data shows, and we really engaged in our community outreach efforts with this specific intent of reaching all aspects of Pleasanton's community."

According to Jeffress, some of the key priorities that the city heard from more than a thousand residents include housing and housing affordability, infrastructure, specifically water supply and quality, and public safety.

Other high-level themes that she listed were the importance of communication within the city organization and with the public, economic development, supporting the vitality of Pleasanton's downtown, maintaining and improving city facilities and parks, and collaborating with non-profit organizations, among others.

Jeffress also went over the city's four main values listed in the plan: service integrity, inclusion and innovation.

Finally, she went on to review the strategic plan's five multi-year goals, which are funding the city's future through fiscal sustainability, optimizing the organization to ensure the city delivers quality services and programs, investing in the environment through eco-friendly and

sustainable facility infrastructure, safeguarding the city through public safety and emergency preparedness, and community development.

During the meeting, Councilmember Valerie Arkin made the only motion to change the plan's vision statement. The change she wanted to integrate the word historic into the verbiage so that it encompassed the idea that Pleasanton continues to honor the city's historic character.

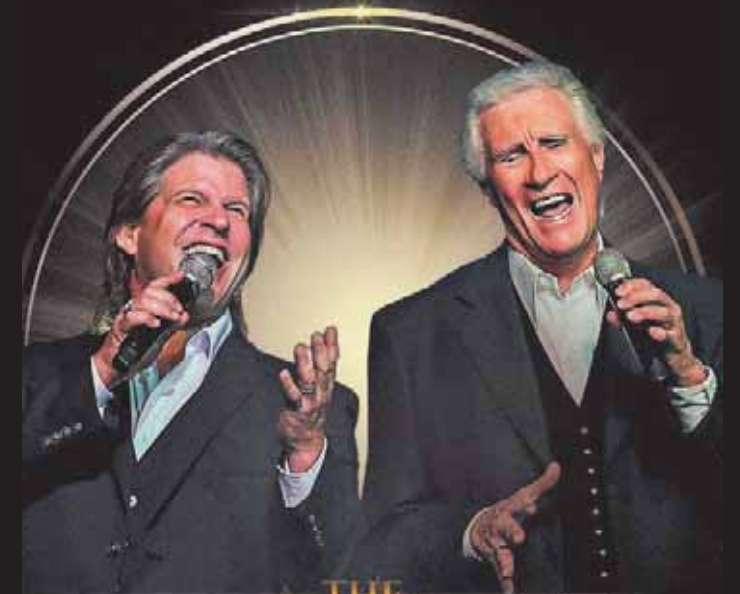
"I appreciate that comment being added back in. It is much of what defines people who come to Pleasanton," Brown said. "A look at our historic downtown and our beautiful old homes ... that's their lasting impression is this wonderful, historic community that we have that it is our stewardship to take forward and continue to maintain."

But as Vice Mayor Jack Balch had stated during his closing comments, the city still has a lot to do as staff now begin working on an implementation action plan that will help complete each of the goals listed in the plan before staff return to the council during the city's regular two-year budget process.

"Sitting here today, looking at the implementation and how we're going to carry that forward when the community members may remember the two-year process and prioritization, I think that's obviously the staff's heavy load to carry forward as we look to implement it," Balch said. ■

LIVE AT THE BANKHEAD

OCT 11 & 12



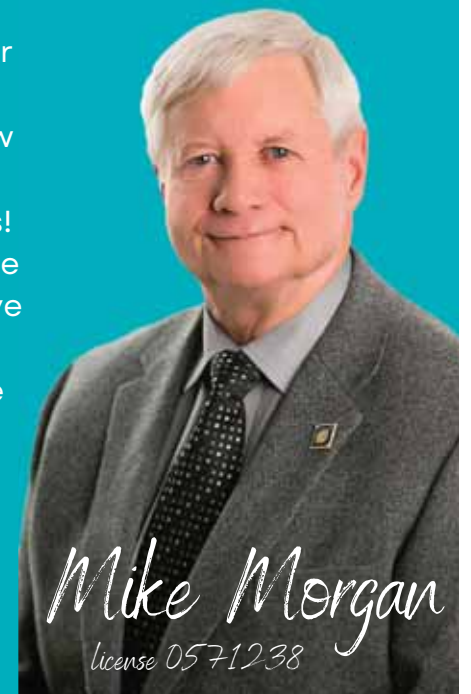
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'Zoom bombers' disrupt Livermore council meeting with hate speech

City, community leaders denounce intolerance following ambush

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The Livermore community is still grappling with shock and dismay after hate speech from virtual participants during last week's City Council meeting led to its abrupt adjournment.

"So many good people are doing good things for our community. And yet hate, too, is having its moment," former councilmember Trish Munro said in a statement to Livermore Vine.

"Over the past few weeks, there have been more than 30 instances of an organized hate campaign disrupting Bay Area governmental meetings (council meetings and boards of supervisors) with hate speech — largely, but not exclusively, directed against Jews," she added.

Munro, who is Jewish, said she was observing the culmination of Yom Kippur when the incident took place during the council's Sept. 25 regular meeting. She said she was notified via text of the intrusion referred to as "zoombombing" soon after the council meeting ended.

After COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, the Livermore council — along

with many other public agencies — maintained the practice of holding hybrid meetings in person and via Zoom as well as live streaming via YouTube to continue allowing more ways of access for residents.

However, callers who joined via Zoom last week using fake aliases hijacked the public forum period to express racist, anti-LGBTQ and antisemitic rhetoric, including the assertion that "there seems to be an over-representation of Jewish people within the authority structure to decide what our civil rights are."

While Livermore council meetings are typically held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, last Monday's session also coincided with the end of Yom Kippur — a Jewish holy day of fasting and repentance.

After interrupting two back-to-back callers identified as "Sadie Enwird" and "Judy Stroyer", respectively, Mayor John Marchand called for a recess.

City attorney Jason Alcalá noted before the recess that the situation appeared to be an orchestrated effort given the disparaging nature of the comments and the monikers of the

callers, which phonetically translated to offensive slurs and phrases.

"This is not unprecedented; this has happened in other cities as well," Alcalá said.

Marchand was joined by councilmembers Ben Barrientos and Bob Carling. Vice Mayor Brittni Kiick and Councilmember Evan Branning were absent.

After the break, the council suspended the remainder of public comment to the end of the meeting and went ahead with the rest of the agenda.

Just before public comment was set to reopen, Barrientos grabbed his belongings and left the dais. His exit left only two members of the council remaining, meaning there was no longer a quorum to allow the meeting to proceed.

Livermore school board Trustee Kristie Wang, who is also a community organizer with Tri-Valley for Black Lives, shared a comment reflecting on the incident with Livermore Vine.

"As a member of the Jewish community, I've been tracking the increasing incidents of antisemitic

zoombombing at public meetings throughout the Bay Area. Yet hearing those hateful words expressed in the chambers of our City Council was still somehow shocking and appalling," she said. "These are not Livermore values. This is not who we are."

The day after the council meeting, the city released a public statement denouncing hate and doubling down on its commitment to diversity and inclusion.

"Livermore's strength is derived from its diversity and inclusiveness, from respecting one another, from welcoming all, and from collaborating with one another across differences. The city stands against expressions of hatred and supports bringing community members together to celebrate diversity and inclusion," the statement reads.

Both Wang and Munro expressed appreciation to the council and city officials for how they handled the issue.

"The City Council acted swiftly and appropriately. Both council and

city staff deserve thanks from everyone who stands against hate," Munro said.

Wang shared similar sentiments. "I was gratified to see Mayor Marchand take immediate action in the meeting and see the city issue a statement the next day, reaffirming our culture of inclusiveness and stand against hate and intolerance," she said.

In light of the incident's timing, Munro shared a principle within the Jewish faith that is of particular importance to her.

"During Yom Kippur, Jews recite an alphabet of sins using the plural first person: 'We have sinned,' not 'I have sinned.' While each person is responsible for individual actions, personal repentance is not enough. There is communal recognition that when terrible things happen, it is incumbent on all of us, on the whole community to repair the damage. Livermore has been damaged. Let us all work together to build a stronger community out of that damage," she said. ■

Garaventa Hills community meeting moves to Nov. 1

Livermore officials shift last week's date with short-notice cancellation

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The city of Livermore's neighborhood meeting to discuss status updates about the proposed Garaventa Hills housing project is now set for Nov. 1, following the cancellation on short notice of a session that was planned for last week.

The city had initially announced Sept. 27 as the scheduled meeting date, but some stakeholders from the Save the Hill community group were unable to attend for unexpected reasons, city officials told Livermore Vine in an email.

A few residents still showed up to Altamont Creek Elementary School on the evening of Sept. 27, saying they were unaware of the cancellation. After calling city officials directly by phone, Livermore Vine learned the meeting would not be taking place and was able to inform the others in attendance.

The city's planning manager Steve Stewart said he sent an email on Sept. 21 notifying a list of stakeholders that the meeting was canceled but the city's website was not updated to reflect the change until Sept. 26. No other public outreach was conducted.

"Going forward, we'll be conducting more formal and

comprehensive noticing on the project status and meetings," Stewart said.

He added that the city is currently working on a notice that will be sent to updated addresses on the project mailing and email lists.

"The mailing list includes addresses within a 1/4-mile of the

project site, including much more of the community than the 300 feet required by state law," he said, adding that they will also share the information via social media.

The city recently launched a webpage where the new meeting

See **GARAVENTA** on Page 12



JOE DWORETZKY / BCN

Garaventa Hill is the site of a contentious housing development proposed by Lafferty Communities to build roughly 40 homes on a privately owned 32-acre parcel of land in Livermore.

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Iron Horse Trail overcrossing installation postponed

New date for Dublin Boulevard closure not yet announced

BY NICOLE GONZALES
The planned closure of Dublin Boulevard for the installation of a new Iron Horse Regional Trail overcrossing was delayed last month as a result of loose fasteners and a new date for the project work has not been scheduled, according to city officials.

In an announcement made hours before the closure was set to take place, Dublin city officials informed the public that due to “unforeseen circumstances” the bridge installation could not take place.

“Prior to the Iron Horse Trail Bridge lift on Sept. 9, it was discovered that a total of four bolts (out of 896) experienced a rotational failure,” city spokesperson Shari Jackman said. “This can happen when there may be slight differences in alignment when assembling in the field.”

The contractor, Goodfellow Bros Sequoia A JV, accepted the installation job and began construction of the overcrossing in April 2022.

“The bridge fabricator has reviewed the bolt verification

and tensioning and is repairing the four bolts by enlarging the hole slightly. The diameter and strength of the bolts will remain intact,” Jackman added.

The overcrossing is said to make pedestrian and cyclist access safer, easier and quicker through the Iron Horse Trail. As it is now pedestrians must take additional directions to continue on the Iron Horse Trail, the bridge will allow them to cross over multiple lanes of traffic with ease.

The bridge piece itself will span an estimated 230 feet across Dublin Boulevard, with a height of 20 feet at its tallest.

“Staff and city consultants will work with the contractor to determine a new date for the bridge lift,” city officials said.

The closure is expected to take place in two parts and create a full shutdown of Dublin Boulevard



CITY OF DUBLIN

Closures of Dublin Boulevard were postponed for loose bolt connections detected in the new Iron Horse Trail overcrossing bridge. A new date for the closures is expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

between Dougherty Road and Hacienda Drive.

For more updates on the closures, visit dublin.ca.gov. ■



A trip Down Under: Steve Van Dorn traveled to New Zealand and Australia this spring, including Melbourne for the Rotary International Convention and this stop in Cairns with his Weekly in hand.

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.

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

HIGHLIGHTS

Civic Arts and Youth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the Senior Center – 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Review and Recommend Process Improvements for the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Community Grant Program

Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting

Thursday, October 12, 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 Approve Updates to Section VIII. Recreation of the City’s Master Fee Schedule

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

Valley Community Church unveils new building

Specially designed facility to serve its kids and disability ministry

BY NICOLE GONZALES
Valley Community Church recently held a grand-opening and ribbon-cutting event for its new Families Building, a fresh addition to Pleasanton congregation’s kids and disability ministry.

VCC representatives said the new building aims to create a safe, focused place for students and families. Mayor Karla Brown and members of the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce joined church members and others for the special ceremony on Sept. 3 at the downtown church.

“(We) are thrilled to share this new space with the community,” VCC representatives said in a statement.

The new building is approximately 4,800-square-feet, with

the interior being strategically designed for optimal family, children and student use. The main mission, according to church officials, is to create a “safe space where everyone can learn God’s word and grow to know and love Jesus.”

From the inside, a check-in and welcome area allows parents to drop off their children. Additionally, there is a dedicated space for students with disabilities and special needs.

“With our new classroom, we can welcome someone with disabilities of any age and build friendship while playing and learning,” disability ministry director Lilian Jewell said in a statement.

“It is our hope that someone with autism, sensory-processing disorder, cerebral palsy, or another

special need, will walk into this space and see it is made for them and their families to flourish,” Jewell added.

Outside, a new playground for toddlers, preschoolers and elementary school students was debuted.

Volunteers who will be in the space are trained and screened to ensure every participant has the best possible experience, according to Jewell.

A second part of the project will add more details and functions to the VCC campus at 4455 Del Valle Pkwy.

Phase 2 of the expansion is still to be “revisited and funded”. It will include meeting spaces, meal service windows, and an indoor cafe with seating. No date for these additions has been set. ■



STEVEN CARLSON / VCC

People celebrate the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Valley Community Church’s new Families Building last month.

Give back this month at Glitz and Gratitude

Culinary Angels hosting annual fundraising gala in Livermore

By NICOLE GONZALES

Cancer patient support nonprofit Culinary Angels is set to host its annual gala Glitz and Gratitude later this month to raise funds and awareness for its continuing meal programs in the Tri-Valley.

Scheduled for Oct. 21 at Garré Winery and Vineyards in Livermore, attendees will have the opportunity to give back through donations and auction events while enjoying fine dining and live music.

Founded in 2016 by Lisa McNaney, Culinary Angels aims to provide organic nutrition-focused meals to cancer patients and their caregivers in the area. The annual

gala is imperative to sustaining the nonprofit's services.

"Glitz and Gratitude is our largest fundraising event of the year and we depend on the money generated to help us execute and maintain our meal program," McNaney said. "We also have plans to grow year after year and rely on the generosity of our supporters to allow us to have greater impact for those going through this dreadful disease."

The event will offer a gourmet dinner experience with paired wines. Guests can participate in live and silent auctions and listen to live music by local musician Jack Quigley. KPIX-5's Juliette Goodrich and local auctioneer Big Frank will host the night's events.

"Glitz and Gratitude is our most elevated event, being held at the beautiful Garre Vineyards and Winery," McNaney added. "We will have a gourmet dinner, Garré wine, amazing live and silent auctioning games with emcee Juliette Goodrich and local celebrity auctioneer Big Frank."

The organization finds it important to not only provide the food to those battling cancer, but also to their immediate supporters.

"Culinary Angels delivers organic, healing meals free-of-charge to people going through a cancer challenge, as well as to their caregiver throughout the five cities of the Tri-Valley," McNaney said. "We believe the

caregiver is an important part of a person's healing journey and they are usually last when caring for a loved one with a serious illness. Therefore, we provide the same nutritious meal items and soup for them as well."

Aside from offering free, delivered meals, the organization also works to educate the community on nutrition and seasonal eating.

"We also provide a nutrition education program through our

website that teaches people how to source organic, local and seasonal ingredients, recipes on how to cook with them and an entire Nutrition and Wellness section which provides meaningful insights for anyone interested in sustaining their wellness," McNaney told the Weekly.

To purchase a Glitz and Gratitude ticket or find out more about Culinary Angels, visit culinaryangels.org. ■

9-year-old inspires LARPD to install monkey bars at Robertson Park

'A testament to the power of community engagement'

By CIERRA BAILEY

Livermore's Robertson Park now features an upgrade to its playground equipment thanks to a 9-year-old community member named Avery Kohn.

Kohn sent a letter in January to Jan Palajac, a board director for the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, expressing her desire to see monkey bars added to the Robertson Park playground, according to a statement from the district last week.

Palajac referred the request to the facilities committee and the group invited Kohn to participate in one of its meetings held via Zoom, where she presented her ideas and learned about the committee's responsibilities.

To get the ball rolling, parks and facilities manager Fred Haldeman worked with equipment manufacturers on the feasibility of Kohn's request. They determined that traditional monkey bars would not fit within the existing playground

footprint. However, a suitable variation was identified and LARPD staff purchased and installed the equipment.

Within months, Kohn's idea was brought to life and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Sept. 21. Kohn was in attendance at the ceremony, joined by her family, LARPD board members, staff and community members.

"The installation of the monkey bars is a testament to the power of community engagement,

See **MONKEY BARS** on Page 12



LARPD

Avery Kohn plays for the first time on the new monkey bars that she helped bring to Robertson Park.

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Ann Parnie Frobose

August 9, 1936 – September 25, 2023

Ann Frobose, a devoted follower of Jesus, went home to her Lord Sept. 25, 2023. She was 87.

Ann's lifelong love of learning was wide ranging. One expression of this was her extensive and deep study of Christian literature. Her sister, Pat Wahlen, said "She had a strong sense of God and Jesus and knew more about the Bible than anyone I knew." Ann taught children's Bible School for many years and led many Bible studies.

She was a valued member in a variety of groups and communities. She maintained a lifelong bond with a group of classmates from Middlebury College. For years she and Rich participated in an Ignatian Companions group in Berkeley that focused on Catholic studies and community service. Ann's passing will leave a hole in these and many other groups.

Ann was a natural life coach. Her wisdom, kindness and love of people blessed those in her presence even when she was going through difficult times of her own.

The eldest daughter of Elaine Helmer and Alexander David Parnie, Ann was born in Detroit and grew up in the suburb of Birmingham. Her dad routinely took the family on spring and summer road trips to see the United States.

After graduating from Birmingham High School, she moved to Vermont to attend Middlebury College. She earned a degree in English Literature in 1958 and married Philip Ormsbee that year. They had two children and divorced after twenty-five years.

Ann had never worked out of the home in her married life, except in retail and light administrative positions, so she trained and started working as a paralegal. It was not a good fit so she shifted to teaching and earned a teacher's certificate at St. Mary's College in Moraga. She was employed by the Mt. Diablo Unified School District as a special education teacher for seventh graders. Ann had found her calling.

She met Richard Frobose and they were married in October 2000. She had deep roots in the Catholic faith but decided to attend the Presbyterian Church with her husband. There she was elected as an elder. After finishing that service, she returned to the Catholic Church and remained an active member of St. Augustine's parish in Pleasanton.

She is survived by her second husband, Richard Frobose of Pleasanton, her sister Pat Wahlen of San Diego; her son George Ormsbee and wife, Missy, of Sisters, Oregon, her daughter Mary Church and husband, Daniel, of Willits, CA, and her step-daughter Carisa Smitham and husband, Andrew, of Palos Verdes Estates, CA, and grandchildren Bridget, Sean, Skye, Drew, and Summer. She is predeceased by her brother, David Parnie.

The Memorial service will be 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023. GraceWay Church, 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton 94566.



PAID OBITUARY

WORKDAY

Continued from Page 5

to concerns about what jobs the technology can and will be able to perform in the future, and what will happen to workers currently in those roles, Bhusri and other Workday representatives sought to emphasize the ways in which AI can be harnessed responsibly and in harmony with existing workers.

According to Bhusri and the company's Chief People Officer Ashley Goldsmith, the well-being of employees is a core value of the company since before its inception that carries into the present day and its future trajectory.

"Employees are always No. 1, and the simple reason is that I've never seen a company that has happy customers and unhappy employees," Bhusri said.

Goldsmith — who is celebrating a decade in her position at Workday this year — told the Weekly that while a number of things have changed during her tenure at Workday and in the human resources realm more broadly, people continue to be front and center at the company.

"We think about technology as supporting humans to let humans do what we do best — and there's so many things we're uniquely excellent at that we think technology can help us do some things better than what we've done on our own, faster in some cases than we might have done on our own," Goldsmith said.

"And then there's work that most humans just don't necessarily enjoy, and if we can give that to a technology, something that's highly repetitive that doesn't stimulate, then great — let's direct the stimulating things that call for our judgment, our ability to synthesize to pass through life's filter," she continued. "Let's let the humans do that great work, and hopefully let the technology help them do it better and enjoy it more."

While Workday's customer base has grown to include thousands of

high-profile companies throughout the world, their products are also in use by companies closer to home in the Tri-Valley — such as John Muir Health, where the technology has been in use throughout the nonprofit health care system since being fully implemented in 2019, and amid its inroads into the Tri-Valley with its proposed acquisition of San Ramon Regional Medical Center from Tenet Healthcare.

John Muir Health Controller Jeffrey Smith told the Weekly that officials there are expecting final Federal Trade Commission approval of the SRRMC acquisition within the first two weeks of November. With the acquisition poised to be the health care system's largest in recent history, he said that he and others at John Muir were already looking towards ways to leverage their current Workday system to accommodate the move.

"We're working with Workday right now to start adding the bones so to speak or the structure of the San Ramon hospital," Smith said. "So it's about 650 employees, and so we're starting to do the build for that now to bring those employees on when we hope to close that deal out later this year. So that's going to be a huge component of our success to acquire the hospital and transition those additional employees into the system."

With John Muir Health expecting to keep current SRRMC staff on through the acquisition and bring them into their own health care system, he added that they are specifically looking toward ways to streamline the onboarding process for a smooth transition.

"Because it's web-based — San Ramon people, some will probably come to our offices in Walnut Creek for some main orientation and stuff like that — but because of the web-based structure they can access a lot of the things remotely, so it helps reduce a lot of time for the people driving around to meetings, sharing information, those kinds of things for employee



COURTESY WORKDAY

The annual Workday Rising conference brought in a record crowd from Sept. 26-29. The future of artificial intelligence was among the hot topics.

onboarding and ongoing training needs and things like that," Smith said.

Despite its growing profile and name recognition, the broadness of Workday's customer base and products can make its function somewhat opaque to laypeople. Goldman described the company as an "enterprise provider of cloud-based software for finance and HR."

"Our goal is to help our customers be successful, thriving businesses with happy and growing employees," Goldsmith said.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, that has been an increasingly difficult goal to accomplish in the health care realm, where workers have been increasingly hard to retain and recruit amid what Smith described as an "exodus" of talent in the field amid an aging Baby Boomer population opting to retire and an increasingly competitive atmosphere in nursing schools.

"It's been harder to get more trained people in the door so to speak as well," Smith said. "Here in our area, it's a high cost of living area so for some clinicians it's hard to get into the market if they're not already here as far as the housing situation."

He added that attracting talented health care professionals has become increasingly competitive as wages increase and John Muir competes with larger healthcare systems such as Kaiser Permanente and Sutter Health.

While advancements and new products at Workday and in the technology industry in general may

not have broad, sweeping solutions to address employment and supply chain issues facing healthcare and a range of other industries, Smith said that Workday has helped and continues to help contend with them on a day-to-day basis.

"Usually not-for-profits don't have the most funding, whether it's a health care system or a government entity or whatever else," Smith said. "So whatever you can do for saving money on printing hard copies of things, or mailing stuff out, or those kinds of things that really drag on a nonprofit organization's financial results and their time and resources."

"So with Workday for any nonprofit or any organization, that really helps to automate more, helps to give you more information quickly to make decisions faster, whether that's financial information or employee hours trending or maybe your spend history and what kind of things you're spending your money on," he continued.

Smith noted that Workday was also being used to help plan and hire for the new Behring Pavilion at John Muir's Walnut Creek hospital, which is set to be the new home of the system's cancer care facilities following a hefty donation from the late Blackhawk developer Ken Behring's foundation.

"We're anticipating the cancer building opening in February," Smith said. "That's about a \$300 million building, so with Workday we've been having to set up a lot of different cost centers and departments that are going into that

building as well. So we've been spending time adding those cost centers and making sure those things are set up to appropriately support the different cancer departments that will be in that particular building as well."

He added that John Muir will also be leveraging more AI technology from Workday as part of the hiring process for the new cancer center.

"Generally, I think the job description creates generally — and we do have some unique new positions for the cancer building that we are recruiting for and hiring for — but with the AI job description that will save a lot of time going forward as well," Smith said.

Goldsmith said that while she was optimistic about the future of technology in general and Workday in particular, it would remain crucial in the future for her company and others to listen to the concerns raised by customers and employees about the rapid development and implementation of new technology, and to address concerns in order to foster the trust required for widespread adoption.

"Be conscious of the fact that like anything, there's always some risks associated with it," Goldsmith said. "So pay attention to things like what you're reading on social media, or places where I think we all need to use care that we're making sure that what we're reading — and whether it's a technology at work or something at home — that we're using things that we know we have trust in." ■

GARAVENTA

Continued from Page 9

information can be found along with background information about the contentious plan proposed by developer Lafferty Communities to build roughly 40 homes on a privately owned 32-acre parcel of land located on a hillside north of Interstate 580, east of Vasco Road and west of Laughlin Road.

Community group Save the Hill has previously opposed the project, filing a lawsuit against the city under the California Environmental Quality Act that cited its failure to adequately evaluate a "no project" option that would see the city purchase the land from the owners to preserve as open space.

After the lawsuit was rejected

in superior court, the group successfully appealed. The city then revoked its approval of the project last November.

Since then, the developer has resubmitted the project for review and by law the city is "required to process all development proposals and to allow a property owner to correct or modify a project and resubmit their proposal for review," according to the city's website.

The purpose of the forthcoming town hall is to share updated information about the status of the project.

The Nov. 1 meeting is set to take place at the same venue — the multipurpose room at Altamont Creek Elementary — from 6:30-8 p.m. The campus is located at 6500 Garaventa Ranch Road in Livermore. ■

MONKEY BARS

Continued from Page 11

especially in working with Livermore's youth," LARPD officials said.

Kohn's mother, Laura Kohn, sent an email to Palajac expressing her appreciation for moving the project forward and including Avery along the way.

"Thank you so much for inviting

my daughter, Avery Kohn, to participate in the democratic process and experience the power of her written voice. She learned a lot by seeing how the Facilities Committee operates and the variety of topics you are responsible for," Laura Kohn wrote.

"Thank you for taking a 9-year-old girl seriously. I know this experience will be important to her as she grows and becomes more

involved in her community as an adult," she added.

During the opening ceremony, Kohn was able to play on the monkey bars that she inspired. Her mother told attendees that the experience has empowered her daughter as she quoted her saying, "I'm going to be president!"

Robertson Park is located at 3200 Robertson Park Road in Livermore. ■

An operatic take on an American classic

Livermore Valley Opera presenting 'Of Mice and Men' on Bankhead stage

STORY AND PHOTOS BY NICOLE GONZALES

This month Livermore Valley Opera brings drama, talent and gripping vocals to the stage once again, with its production of the classic and haunting American tale "Of Mice and Men".

The Tri-Valley troupe is set to perform Carlisle Floyd's operatic adaptation of the 1937 John Steinbeck novella of the same name at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore during the next two weekends. LVO will offer a total of four performances with Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon times.

The plot follows two farm workers during the Great Depression, Lennie Small and George Milton, who dream of one day owning their own land. Floyd's rendition has become known as a powerful, timeless and engaging showcase of American opera.

"Set during the Great Depression, this opera is about a great friendship and a dream of owning a home and having something to call your own," LVO artistic director Eric Mills said. "Its themes include loneliness and despair, but also hope and compassion."

The production will act as the opener for LVO's 32nd season. The group originally planned for "Of Mice and Men" to be part of its 30th anniversary season, but due to COVID-19, the show had to be postponed.

Returning LVO performers Matthew Pearce and Robert Mellon star as Lennie and George, respectively.

Mills explained that the production shows off the capabilities of

American literary and artistic talents, in contrast to the majority of operas that are Italian.

"The LVO artistic team thought it was time to produce an opera that is truly American, by composer Carlisle Floyd, considered by many to be the greatest opera composer from the United States," Mills said. "You have a great American story set to music by a great American composer. What could be better?"

Notably, Floyd once called "Of Mice and Men" his greatest operatic achievement

Marc Jacobs makes LVO directorial debut this season with "Of Mice and Men".

"It's a metaphor for the cruel fate that often hurts the most vulnerable in our society, whether they be undocumented immigrants or itinerant ranch hands in the Great Depression," Jacobs said of the production. "I knew I wanted to put the audience right in the shoes of the two protagonists, George and Lennie."

Jacobs shared that he met Mills in 1997 through Craig Bohmler, a mutual friend and composer. Bohmler, coincidentally, was mentored by Floyd while pursuing a graduate music program.

After being offered the opportunity to direct "Of Mice and Men" for LVO, Jacobs jumped at the chance.

"This is a piece about friendship, about loneliness and about man's cruelty to man. At the center of it is the love these two men (George and Lennie) have for each other," Jacobs added. "They are a unit and they have a dream. That dream is so



The upcoming Livermore Valley Opera production, "Of Mice and Men", stars Matthew Pearce as Lennie (left) and Robert Mellon as George (right). Here, the pair stand onstage during their piano technical rehearsal on Monday.

simple and basic anyone can relate to it, to have a home, to be safe, to not be on the run. It was always about the two of them finding a home together."

Experiencing a performance of this production will be an unforgettable one, according to the director.

"What Carlisle Floyd has done is taken Steinbeck's story that most of us read in high school or college and given it music that takes the piece to a whole new emotional level," Jacobs said.

He added, "We know these characters; they're almost part of the American DNA. But the music makes us feel them and go through what they're going through. It's visceral. You can't help but be moved. If there's a dry eye in the theater at the end of this opera, I haven't done my job."

"Of Mice and Men" is to feature sets designed by Jean-Francois Revon and music conducted by LVO music director Alexander Katsman. The show will be sung in English with subtitles provided.

"One of my great hopes is that the public will realize that there is great

value in American opera and opera in English, based on themes from our American history," Mills said. "This opera is a wonderful example of words and music together creating the drama. It is a great opera, and I hope our audiences will be moved by it."

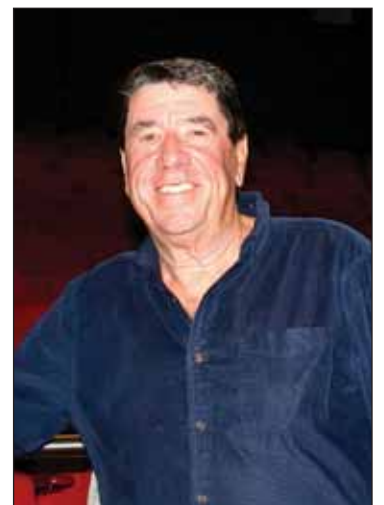
Jacobs reflected that his favorite part of working on "Of Mice and Men", so far, has been interacting with the performers.

"Each one of them is not only a perfect vocal and physical match for these tricky roles, they are also all amazing actors. It's been a great collaboration," he said. "We are all in love with this opera and each rehearsal has been an opportunity to dig deeper into these characters. Every one of them has subtext and a rich inner life, and finding that has made every rehearsal so inspiring."

LVO newcomers Chad Somers and Veronique Filloux star in the roles of Curley and his wife.

"This is a chance to see one of the great American operas that is produced all too rarely," Jacobs said.

LVO is to host a "Season Opening Night Dinner" event, at Uncle Yu's



Marc Jacobs will make his LVO directing debut with "Of Mice and Men".

at the Vineyard beginning at 4 p.m. this Saturday (Oct. 7) just before the first show. A separate ticket is required for this gathering. Show times are 7:30 p.m. for the next two Saturdays (Oct. 7 and 14) and 2 p.m. on Sundays (Oct. 8 and 15) at the Bankhead in downtown Livermore. Visit livermorearts.org for tickets. ■



The ensemble cast of the LVO production wave during one of their first rehearsals in costume.

Recapture that lovin' feelin'

The Righteous Brothers performing two nights in downtown Livermore

BY NICOLE GONZALES

Famed American duo the Righteous Brothers will take Livermore audience members back to the 1960s with two concerts at the Bankhead Theater next week.

The band is set to take the theater stage on Wednesday and Thursday (Oct. 11-12) at 7:30 p.m., with founding member Bill Medley, known for his signature low bass-baritone voice, joined by current singing partner Bucky Heard.

"We do the classic, 'Unchained Melody,' which was a hit in the '60s, and of course, 'You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin', 'I've Had the Time of My Life' from 'Dirty Dancing' — all the big hits that the Righteous Brothers fans love, and then so much more," Heard told the Weekly in a recent interview. "It's a real pleasure, almost like 'The Righteous Brothers Musical!'"

The Righteous Brothers, formed in 1963 Southern California, are known for their most active recording and touring periods during the 1960s and 1970s.

"We're very fortunate, the Righteous Brothers had a history of great songs from back when they first recorded them in the '60s and '70s," added Heard, who joined the lineup nearly a decade ago. "A lot of their songs that were hits in the '60s were later revived in the movies in the '80s, so there's a wide age group that knows the music so well. At the shows we'll have 80-year-olds sitting with 40-year-olds in the audience who all love the music the same."

Medley originally created the group with his tenor counterpart Bobby Hatfield. The group remained strong, with a few brief periods of hiatus, until Hatfield's death in 2003.

Over 10 years later, Medley listened to Heard singing in a Journey tribute group in Mississippi. After asking him to sing a few of the Righteous Brothers' hit songs, Medley invited the classically trained vocalist Heard to perform with him in 2016 establishing the duo's new rendition.

Currently, the two are on their eighth successful season of residency shows in Las Vegas and embarking on a nationwide tour.

During shows Medley will often talk to the audience with ease, sharing stories about early

touring and recording days, like opening for the Beatles and more. Heard said the two showmen strive to create a sense of familiarity with the audience members, almost like they are in their own living room.

"People are gonna get what they expect and more. Bill Medley has been doing this a long time. He knows how to put a show together and the audience leaves feeling like they've experienced something," Heard said. "We want each individual audience member to feel like we're doing the show just for them. So we create this atmosphere like we just walked into your living room and are performing for you."

To the Righteous Brothers, the fans and their connection to the songs is the most important element of the show.

"We've played in front of thousands of people but the object is always to make the audience feel special. It's about them and it's about performing the songs that they love so much so that they can relive those memories," Heard said. "It's so fulfilling and heartfelt; I'm just so proud to be a part of it."

"We are watching the people relive the memories. You can look in their faces and see them going all the way back to 1966, and watching that is just magical to see the memories flooding back to them," he added.

When recalling his favorite song in Righteous Brothers discography, Heard spoke about the 1974 hit "Rock and Roll Heaven."

"(This song) is a tribute to all the great rock stars that we've unfortunately lost over the years, recently Glen Campbell or Tina Turner. These are all the artists that have died that laid the groundwork for the rest of us," Heard said.

"Back in 1974 I would sit in my room and play that record over and over again," he added. The singer shared a memory of playing his 45 record of the track to the point where he had to buy a second copy because his first had been played out so much.

"I would sit there and try to emulate Bobby, having no clue that some 50 years later I'd be standing beside (Bill) and actually helping fill in for Bobby," he added.

Heard himself comes from a theater background, but has done



COURTESY THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS

The Righteous Brothers' lineup of Bucky Heard (left) and Bill Medley (right) are performing at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Oct. 11-12.

everything from rock to opera.

"Music moves me in general," he said. "I have a pretty wide appreciation of music. And I think that's kind of what makes me who I am because I've had experience with a lot of different genres."

Although Heard is pleased to be a part of the Righteous Brothers, he understands the impact Hatfield had and doesn't feel the need to be a "replacement" for the late singer.

"(Bobby) is an iconic voice. There is no replacing Bobby Hatfield, but I'm filling in for him so that we can keep bringing the music to the people," Heard said. "We pay tribute to Bobby at the show. We were very respectful to him and dedicate part of the show to him, so it's almost like he's with

us onstage."

Heard and Medley, who recently turned 83, continue their current tour through November.

"We're really hitting our stride

with these shows, and Bill is absolutely crushing it," said Heard.

To find tickets for the Bankhead Theater shows, visit livermorearts.org. ■



Pleasanton set to host cultural celebration festivities

Event series will kick off this Saturday with Hispanic Heritage Celebration

By Christian Trujano

Pleasanton's Library and Recreation Department will be hosting a series of cultural celebration events starting this weekend with the goal of bringing community members together to partake in various cultural activities.

"The city values the importance of honoring, embracing and celebrating the many cultural heritages and traditions of our community," Nick Binzoni, community and public relations coordinator for the department, told the Weekly. "With inclusiveness as one of its core values, the Library and Recreation Department believes that offering meaningful cultural events is an important part of its service to the community."

Each event will offer family activities and performances to honor Pleasanton's cultural diversity, according to a press release from the city.

"As part of its commitment to the value of inclusion, the city of Pleasanton is excited to offer a series of events throughout the year, inviting individuals of all ages and backgrounds to celebrate our cultural communities through arts, music and learning," according to the release.

The series will kick off on Saturday (Oct. 7) with a Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the Alviso Adobe Community Park in observance of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

"While planning the upcoming Hispanic Heritage Celebration, city staff collaborated closely with the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association, the Hispanic Heritage Center, the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council and members of the Pleasanton Unified School District, among others," Binzoni said. "The planning of this event was also supported by the involvement of many individual community members with Hispanic heritage."

Residents will be invited to a free morning bilingual hike at the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail before attending a bilingual music story time performed by retro acoustic band Cascada de Flores at 11:15 a.m.

"Individuals of all ages will enjoy original stories told in Spanish and English, using song, a variety of musical instruments, dance, theater and characters from traditional Mexican and Latin American cultures," city officials said.

The Pleasanton Unified School District's Estrella del Pueblo Mariachi Program will also be

performing at the event and members of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association and Hispanic Heritage Center will all be present with information and activities.

Following this Saturday's festivities, there will be three separate cultural celebration events happening in November.

The first will be on Nov. 4 to celebrate Dia de Los Muertos, also known as the Day of the Dead, which is a holiday meant to honor the memory of those who have died.

Followed by that, there will be a Diwali Celebration — also known as the Festival of Lights — that will take place on Nov. 5 and feature music and dance performances from Vaishnavi Misra Dance and Music, a dance school based in Pleasanton.

Then on Nov. 18, the city will celebrate Native American Heritage Month at the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

"As we begin planning the following celebrations in the series, we will continue to collaborate with local cultural groups and seek the invaluable knowledge and guidance they provide," Binzoni said. "We are committed to ensuring that representatives from these organizations



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Dancers and singers perform for the 2019 Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

have an opportunity to play a central role in every stage of program planning."

Other programs planned for next year include: Lunar New Year, Black History Month, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Heritage Month and Juneteenth. According to the press release, these future events will take place in various locations such as the Pleasanton Library, Senior Center, Alviso Adobe, Firehouse Arts Center and the Amador Theater.

Those will all also feature family friendly activities and performances that "embrace the

beauty of the community's cultural diversity."

"We strive to create experiences that foster a greater understanding and appreciation for different cultures among all members of the community," Binzoni said. "By coming together at these celebrations, we will collectively strengthen our cultural awareness, which will lead to tighter social bonds, deeper empathy, and a greater sense of belonging and unity for all individuals. Diversity is the backbone of any vibrant community and enhances the social fabric of our city." ■

All aboard! Tickets going on sale for Train of Lights

Popular Niles Canyon Railway holiday experience returns Nov. 17

By Jeremy Walsh

A Tri-Valley holiday tradition that echoes of yesteryear will soon be pulling into the station, as Niles Canyon Railway's annual Train of Lights is set to be back this November and December — with tickets going on sale this weekend, and likely to go fast.

The major fundraiser for the Pacific Locomotive Association, which operates Niles Canyon Railway activities, the Train of Lights gives people the chance to ride in vintage train cars decked out for the winter holiday season and filled with music, refreshments and merriment. It's also a rare opportunity to ride through the canyon at night.

"The Train of Lights is simply a unique holiday experience in its size and scope," said Chris Hauf, marketing manager for Niles Canyon Railway.

"Not only does it impress with its 16 cars lit with a huge array of holiday decorations, but it then continues inside the train where everywhere you turn, the interiors are immaculately decorated as well; all by volunteers we should note who donate thousands of hours to

decorate and ultimately undecorate the train each year," Hauf told the Weekly.

"Given its longevity, it has become a tradition for many Bay Area families and something they look forward to where they can simply come on board and have a few hours of holiday enjoyment with each other as the train takes you away to a different time and what feels like a different place," Hauf added.

A momentous undertaking each year, Train of Lights preparations have been underway for weeks as volunteers continue to place decorations outside and inside the classic trains — materials that fill up two, 75-foot railroad baggage cars worth of storage the rest of the year, according to Hauf.

"In all, it takes several thousand volunteer hours to decorate the train, but that is not all. Other volunteers are busy making repairs, undertaking maintenance or doing restorations on the equipment to be used for TOL," Hauf said, also noting that each evening train will take 30 volunteers to operate.

The program will run on weekends and select weekday evenings between Nov. 17 and Dec. 29,



CHRISTOPHER R. HAUF / NCRY

Exterior and interior looks at the Train of Lights from 2022.

excluding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Offering a 1.5-hour roundtrip ride through Niles Canyon twice each evening of operation, the Train of Lights will depart from the Niles Station at 4:30 p.m. and then again from the Sunol Station at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available for purchase online starting this Saturday (Oct. 7) at 10 a.m. Options include general seating, first-class dome car, first-class parlor car, private caboose or renting the entire train. Visit www.ncry.org/ride/train-of-lights. ■



POLICE BULLETIN

Details emerge in ongoing investigation into crash that killed winery owner

The Livermore Police Department recently released an update on the investigation into the two-vehicle crash that killed local winery owner Mitchell Katz this summer, alleging the other motorist was driving unsafely that afternoon and saying the case report would be forwarded to county prosecutors for review of potential charges when it is finished later this month.

In his public statement late last month, Sgt. Justin Lash reported investigators have found that the other driver, a 27-year-old man from Westley in Stanislaus County, lost control of his car while speeding erratically and struck Katz's SUV along East Avenue on July 21. LPD has determined that alcohol intoxication was not a factor.

The sergeant also confirmed that Katz, 59, was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the collision — a fact the department indirectly revealed days earlier in a public safety advisory on social media about the importance of buckling up in the car, noting that all three fatal crashes in the city's jurisdiction this year involved victims who were not using their seat belt.

Katz, a well-regarded local vintner who operated the namesake Mitchell Katz Winery on South Vasco Road in Livermore, was driving his white GMC SUV on East Avenue near Mitra Street when it was struck by the black Subaru around 3:20 p.m. July 21, according to police. Katz was critically injured and later died at an area hospital.

The Subaru driver was speeding and passing other vehicles unsafely just before the crash occurred, according to police. He experienced chest pain after the wreck and was treated and released from the hospital.

"We are not releasing the name of the driver of the Subaru at this time since he has not been placed under arrest," Lash said. "The case will be sent over to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office for review."

The department hopes to have the investigation report completed and submitted to prosecutors by the end of this month.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- An Alamo man has pleaded guilty to charges of violating sanctions by exporting software upgrades for commercial-grade telecommunications servers to the Islamic Republic of Iran and for tax evasion.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California announced Tuesday that a judge accepted the admissions from 70-year-old Farhad Nafeiy.

Nafeiy pleaded guilty to a violation of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA).

Under IEEPA, the President of the United States has authority to address unusual and extraordinary threats to the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States.

According to a statement from the U.S. Attorney's Office, the President has issued orders prohibiting certain activities and transactions with Iran and the Government of Iran.

Prosecutors said Nafeiy obtained licenses, or approvals, from the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control for advising non-Iranian telecommunications companies on doing business with Iran.

But prosecutors said those licenses didn't authorize Nafeiy to provide any hardware, software or technology directly to Iran. Nafeiy exceeded his OFAC licenses, thereby violating IEEPA and Iranian Transactions and Sanctions Regulations (ITSR).

Nafeiy also broke the sanctions by providing software upgrades to telecommunications equipment in Iran.

The U.S. Attorney's Office said Nafeiy admitted in his plea agreement he knew he exceeded these licenses when he did so. Nafeiy also admitted the total amount of sales of such software upgrades to Iran was approximately \$400,000.

Nafeiy also admitted to evading his federal income taxes, and specifically not paying income tax on some of the proceeds of these sales.

U.S. District Judge Araceli Martinez-Olguin scheduled Nafeiy's sentencing hearing for Jan. 29.

Nafeiy faces prison terms varying from five to 20 years on each count and maximum fines ranging from \$250,000 to \$1 million for each offense. He also faces paying more than \$79,000 to the IRS in restitution.

—Tony Hicks, Bay City News

- A 39-year-old Dublin man was sentenced to seven years in prison last week for various crimes, including attempting to steal cars from the FBI, according to federal prosecutors.

The prison sentencing on Sept. 26 for Quinten Giovanni Moody, also known as Christano Rossi, came nearly six months after he admitted to transporting marijuana out of state, committing insurance fraud during the COVID-19 pandemic, and creating fake FBI documents to attempt to get two of his government-seized vehicles released back to him, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California said.

Between June 2017 and June 2022, Moody, a co-defendant and other co-conspirators generated hundreds of thousands of dollars by transporting marijuana from California to Georgia, Nevada, Texas, and other states, according to court documents.

Prosecutors said that Moody and others purchased marijuana in the state and then sent it to distributors in other states through couriers via commercial air flights and shipping services.

Moody and the others got the

proceeds of their marijuana sales by ordering couriers to carry cash and travel via commercial airline flights. They also used shipping services to deliver cash and ordered others to deposit money into their bank accounts, according to prosecutors.

Moody and others also committed unemployment insurance fraud during the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning in 2020, Moody participated in a scheme to submit fraudulent unemployment benefit claims during the pandemic. He used another person's identity to get a benefits card through Bank of America that he used to buy things at two Las Vegas high-end stores, Louis Vuitton and Cartier, prosecutors said.

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

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

The documents were fake, however, and were created by Moody. He tried the same thing days after, again sending a tow truck and having the driver present fraudulent documentation stating the vehicles were to be released, prosecutors said.

"This defendant committed felonies involving drugs and identity theft, then doubled down by obstructing justice," U.S. Attorney Phillip Talbert said in a statement. "After making hundreds of thousands of dollars distributing marijuana



COURTESY SRPD

The final outstanding suspect in a high profile robbery earlier this year at Heller Jewelers in San Ramon was taken into custody last week following a joint operation in Oakland between SRPD, the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Taskforce, and Oakland's Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms bureau.

across the country and fraudulently claiming unemployment insurance benefits during the coronavirus pandemic, he used phony court documents in a failed attempt to get the FBI to release property seized during the federal investigation."

—Bay City News Service

- A joint operation by the San Ramon Police Department along with the U.S. Marshals' Fugitive Task Force and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives last week yielded the arrest of the fifth and final outstanding suspect in a prominent jewelry heist in City Center Bishop Ranch, two months after the four other suspects were arrested on federal charges.

John Tupou, 30, is now in custody and set for arraignment Friday morning for his alleged role in an armed robbery at Heller Jewelers in the middle of the day at the popular San Ramon shopping center on St. Patrick's Day.

Tupou allegedly evaded authorities for close to two months after

federal charges were announced by the Department of Justice on July 31, at which point the four other suspects in the case — Paul Tonga, Sunia Faavesi, Ryan Montgomery and Kyle Vehikite — were already in custody at Santa Rita Jail after being arrested on July 26.

The charges and arrests come after what federal prosecutors described as a "painstaking investigation" in court documents, with all five suspects in the \$1.1 million robbery having been on the run in various locations in the months since the heist.

Tupou's luck came to an end on Sept. 26, when he was found during an interagency crackdown on an alleged illegal gambling operation in Oakland on the 900 block of 77th Avenue, according to a social media post by Oakland ATE.

The five suspects are each facing one count of conspiracy to commit robbery affecting interstate commerce, one count of robbery affecting interstate commerce, and a forfeiture allegation. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Sept. 30

Domestic battery

- 1:23 a.m. on Ensenada Drive
- 9:16 a.m. on Owens Drive

Assault/battery

- 1:32 p.m. on the 2800 block of Hopyard Road

Warrant arrest

- 5:12 p.m. at Clorox Way and Hopyard Road
- 8:02 p.m. on the 5000 block of Black Avenue

Sept. 29

Warrant arrest

- 8:33 a.m. at Owens Drive and Hopyard Road

Theft

- 8:53 a.m. on the 2400 block of Raven Road
- 10:45 a.m. on the 4200 block of Mirador Drive

Sept. 28

Auto theft

- 12:14 p.m. on the 7100 block of Johnson Drive

Assault/battery

- 2:43 p.m. on the 2800 block of Hopyard Road

Fraud

- 3:28 p.m. on the 3900 block of Vineyard Avenue

Sept. 27

Warrant arrest

- 1:35 a.m. at Santa Rita Road and Pimlico Drive
- 10:44 a.m. on the 5200 block of Genovesio Drive

Theft

- 8 a.m. on Santa Rita Road; theft from auto
- 9:10 a.m. on the 4100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- 11:20 a.m. on Foothill Road; theft from auto
- 4:16 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 26

Fraud

- 8:37 a.m. on the 7800 block of Marigold Court
- 3 p.m. on the 5900 block of Corte Cerritos

Theft

- 10:12 a.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road
- 10:53 a.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Melbourne Court
- 3:47 p.m., 5800 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 4:10 p.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

Burglary

- 10:27 a.m. on the 5700 block of Owens Drive

Vandalism

- 7:42 p.m. on the 7800 block of Chestnut Way

Sept. 25

Burglary

- 5:13 a.m. on the 7900 block of Stoneridge Drive
- 3:28 p.m. on the 3100 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

- 7:10 a.m., 7000 block of Commerce Circle; catalytic converter theft
- 12:48 p.m., 6600 block of Owens Drive; auto theft
- 8:33 p.m. on the 7800 block of Chestnut Way

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LETTERS

Statement from Ryan Jergensen

Last month, the Sunol Glen Unified School Board voted to fly only the United States flag and the California flag. The decision was made by the majority of the board with the best interest of the district in mind. The decision by no means targets any community.

Unfortunately, some radical individuals have used this issue to divide our community. These people — some inside our community and some from outside — have shown up at school to disrupt our students' education.

Some have even emailed death threats to me personally; encouraging me to buy life insurance, giving notice that this weekend "could be my last", and that I may want to put my wife and six children into hiding as the individual determines whether to "hunt Christians" in response to our neutral flag policy.

In order to protect my family, I have requested and been granted a Temporary Restraining Order against one individual by an Alameda County Judge.

Sunol Glen School District is a special place for my family and me. Four of my six children are enrolled, and a fifth will start next fall. The only motivation I have to serve on our volunteer school board is to make our school district a safe, inclusive and excellent place of learning for all children.

—Ryan Jergensen, DDS, president of SGUSD Board of Trustees

Editor's note: Private statement from Jergensen released via CM Public Affairs

Climate change and energy conservation

Climate change has forced us to adapt to a new normal of extreme weather events. However, extreme weather doesn't impact everyone equally. It is the blind community and other individuals with disabilities who bear a disproportionate burden.

At the California Council of the Blind (CCB), our partners raise awareness among Californians and find solutions to address this new normal. One of those solutions is the Power Saver Rewards program.

California Council of the Blind's team has been at community events throughout Central and Northern California providing information that reminds residents to join Power Saver Rewards as well as tips for reducing energy use during a Flex Alert.

The best way to cut your energy use when a Flex Alert is called is to wait to use high-energy-consuming appliances like your washing machine and dishwasher. While it can be inconvenient to wait to do the dishes

or do laundry earlier in the day, your efforts to shift energy use to before 4 p.m. or after 9 p.m. can make a real difference.

For disabled communities, a power outage triggered during a Flex Alert can have severe consequences. Help prevent a power outage during a Flex Alert and sign up for Power Saver Rewards at PowerSaverRewards.org to make it a win-win.

—James Collins, Pleasanton native and community educator for CCB

AB28 will save lives

As a mother and grandmother, I was shocked to learn that since 2020, the No. 1 cause of death of American children is firearms. This is simply unacceptable. Child deaths by firearms are preventable.

California has effective violence intervention and prevention programs that have a history of saving lives in communities hardest-hit by gun violence. However, funding for these programs has been sporadic, inadequate and unreliable.

AB28 will provide reliable annual funding for: school mental health services, safe removal of illegal firearms, resources for victims of gun violence, education for firearm owners, counseling and support for victims, research to prevent firearm suicide and save all taxpayers the enormous costs of gun violence

AB28 has passed the State Assembly and Senate. We await gun-safety champion Gov. Newsom's signature to enact this powerful remedy. It will keep guns out of the wrong hands and save the lives of our children.

—Laurie Herbert, via Town Square

Ordinance for locking up guns

It's important that citizens know that what was wrote up on (Danville Town Council) Agenda Item 3.1 is already covered under state law. The state has several penal codes that address securing firearms in the home.

The group Moms Demand Action are not very educated about gun laws and showed this in the study session. Very poorly put together facts. That's why the council refused to take it any further.

—Mike Grant

Cesar Chavez, animal welfare and Hispanic heritage

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15), here's an excerpt from a treasured letter that Cesar Chavez (United Farm Workers) wrote to me, c/o Action for Animals, in December 1990. No surprise that Chavez was also a long-time vegetarian for ethical (not health) reasons:

"Kindness and compassion towards

all living things is a mark of a civilized society. Conversely, cruelty, whether it is directed against human beings or against animals, is not the exclusive province of any one culture or community of people. Racism, economic deprivation, dog fighting and cock fighting, bullfighting and rodeos are cut from the same fabric: violence. Only when we have become nonviolent towards all life will we have learned to live well ourselves."

Words to live by. R.I.P., Cesar, you are sorely missed. Sí, se puede!

—Eric Mills, coordinator, Action for Animals

Not above the law

The evidence contained in the most recent indictments against Donald Trump should disturb every American. Trump threatened the very bedrock of American democracy.

Knowing he lost the 2020 presidential election, Trump cooked up numerous illegal schemes to stay in power. He deliberately spread disinformation about the 2020 election, then used those lies to pressure state officials in Georgia and other swing states to overturn the will of voters.

When he and his cronies couldn't steal the presidency through phony paperwork or throwing out votes, they rioted on our nation's Capitol in an attempt to stop the election from being certified.

These crimes are too serious to be ignored. That's why two separate grand juries of everyday Americans, one in Washington D.C. and one in Georgia, have now issued two separate indictments of Donald Trump for his efforts to overturn the will of voters. These are the most serious indictments thus far because they deal with a conspiracy to overturn the foundation of our democracy: the vote of the American people.

We the American people choose our leaders, not the other way around. When we go to cast our ballots, we should be confident that our vote will be counted, no matter our political party. We shouldn't have to worry about power-hungry officials throwing out votes that they don't like to try and keep control.

Trump must be held accountable for his crimes, just like anyone else would be, and our elected officials must allow a trial to proceed without political interference.

—Michael Reyes



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Embarcadero Media is an independent multimedia news organization with over 40 years of providing award-winning local news, community information and entertainment to the Midpeninsula.

We are always looking for talented and creative people interested in joining our efforts to produce outstanding journalism and results for our advertisers through print and online.

We currently have the following positions open for talented and highly motivated individuals:

- **Food Editor** — A passionate foodie who owns the company's coverage on the SF Peninsula and is charged with making the Peninsula Foodist the go-to source for local food news and features
- **News Editor** — A sharp and highly skilled editor with a passion for hyperlocal news, a dedication to serving the community and a talent for managing a team of journalists
- **Digital Sales Account Executive** — A self-starter eager to grow digital sales revenue through our websites, email newsletters, branded content, and other digital products under development
- **Redwood City Beat Reporter** — A full-time reporter seeking out stories of interest and importance to our readers and reporting on breaking news in our circulation area

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Falcons continue strong run on volleyball court — with Dons right behind

Also: Unveiling new 'Pleasanton Rivalry Cup'; Foothill senior receives national scholarship

The amazing run of the Foothill girls' volleyball team kept going as the Falcons tacked another pair of wins on the board last week.

The Falcons fell to Amador Valley in their fourth match of the season, 2-0 in the finals of a tournament on Aug. 19. Foothill hasn't lost since, running off 23 straight wins, including a thrilling 3-2 win over Amador on Sept. 19.

The latest two victories came against Monte Vista and California.

In a 25-23, 25-14, 18-25, 25-22 win over Monte Vista, the Foothill highlights came from Katie Salonga (49 assists, 13 digs, 11 service

points), Paige Bennett (21 kills, 9 digs, 8 service points), Lulu Hoenninger (7 kills, 2 blocks) and Nisa Kincaid (5 kills, 2 blocks).

In the 25-18, 25-13, 25-14 win over Cal High, great play was turned in by Kaycie Burdick (12 kills, 12 service points), Kaitlyn Vogel (9 service points, 6 digs) and Maddy Snodgrass (3 kills, 1 block).

Amador Valley is keeping pace with the Falcons, just one game behind in league play with the rematch with Foothill set for Oct. 17.

Since the loss to the Falcons, the Dons have run off three sweeps, taking down Dublin, Carondelet, and Granada 3-0.

Expect the two sides to square off in the East Bay Athletic League playoff finals and likely in the North Coast Section finals.

Pleasanton Rivalry Cup

Something new to the Amador-Foothill gridiron rivalry comes from the Pleasanton Junior Football League, with the christening of the "Pleasanton Rivalry Cup".

The PJFL Hawks are the sponsors of the cup that was presented to the Falcons following their 12-7 win over the Dons on Sept. 22.

The trophy symbolizes the intense competition and sportsmanship that defines Pleasanton's most anticipated sports event — the Amador Valley vs. Foothill football game.

Members of the Hawks, along with an administrator and a coach, were on hand for the game, taking pictures with players, school administrators and members of the spirit squads for both schools.

Foothill water polo

Over this past weekend, Foothill's varsity girls' water polo team played in the Crocker/Martinez Invitational Tournament and were able to win a pair of games.

Pleasanton Preps sponsored by



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RoseHotel.net

Foothill scored 15 goals in the tournament and saw the defense cause 17 turnovers and make 25 steals. The Foothill goalies came through with 30 blocks.

Highlights were strong sprinting by Makayla Rauscher and top shooting by Natalie Williams, Dayna Mesuda, Valentina Avalos and Camryn Hobizal to drive the wins.

The defense got strong play Sarah Taylor, Lindsey Locatelli, Emmy Tsao, Natalie Piergrossi and Mikayla Esguerra held the competition.

Invites to the tournament team were Sarah Overton and Claire Alexander, and deck and technical support by Addison and Hailey Southern.

Foothill's JV team also played in a tournament in Fremont last weekend.

Goalie Medha Nadathur had over 25 blocks in the tournament. Emma Saroukhanoff, Briana Gavril, Nishika Rath and Salma Dwidar each had a goal. Ashby Clark added a pair of goals.

Amador tennis

The Dons got another win, this

time taking down Dougherty Valley 6-3.

The six victories came from Montana Parkinson-Lubold, Vedika Gowda, Neha Reddy and Megha Reddy in singles' play, with the doubles' teams of Sanvi Sharma/Aditi Deshpande and Alayna West/Bella Cheng also winning.

There is a big match set for this week as the Dons play host to rival Foothill. The Falcons took a 5-4 win when the two met at Foothill.

Falcon honored

Aditi Balakrishna, a 17-year-old senior at Foothill, was surprised by PURE Insurance CEO Martin Leitch with an invitation to the national First Tee College Scholarship Program during an event at the PURE Insurance Championship, which took place Sept. 22-24 at Pebble Beach Golf Links.

Balakrishna is vice president of the Foothill Society of Women Engineers and president of the Neurodiversity Club. She also founded HappyArt, an organization that creates cards for Bay Area seniors, and she volunteers with First Tee of the Tri-Valley and Special Olympics. ■

WE'RE PROUD TO BRING OUR READERS SOME OF THE BEST JOURNALISM IN THE STATE.

The annual **California Journalism Awards** competition, which celebrates excellence in reporting, design, photography and multimedia recognized our organization with **17 awards** in the following categories:

- Arts & Entertainment Coverage
- Coverage of 2022 Elections
- Coverage of Business and the Economy
- Coverage of Youth and Education
- Editorial Comment
- Feature Photo
- Feature Story
- In-Depth Reporting
- Inside Page Layout & Design
- Investigative Reporting
- Land-Use Reporting
- News Photo
- Newsletter
- Open - Investigative Reporting
- Profile Story
- Video Journalism

Please help support the local journalism and the award-winning team that is driven by the desire to bring you fresh, original reporting.

We couldn't do it without you.



PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Darling Donna

Treat yourself to a fluffy new friend — Donna! She is as sweet as waffles with whipped cream and as happy as Li'l Sebastian at the Pawnee Harvest Festival. Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more about Donna or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption application process.

Entertainment

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 livmorearts.org.

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 livmorearts.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 livmorearts.org.

THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS 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 livmorearts.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.

THE MAGIC OF ANDY AMYX 2023

Andy Amyx is a world class magician whose amazing talents have been seen by audiences around the world.

Audiences of all ages are left in awe and laugh in delight as they become part of the show. 2 p.m., Oct. 15. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

COURTYARD CONCERT JUSYB Up and coming artist, JusyB, makes his debut performance celebrating his debut EP *Want&Reality*. Justin Beasley demonstrates vulnerability, perseverance, and love through his voice, his artistry, and passion for performing in the music he sings. 5:30 p.m., Oct. 19. Tickets \$10. Visit livmorearts.org.

SÅJE AT THE FIREHOUSE Born out of close friendship and deep admiration, these world-renowned artists, composers and arrangers have come together to explore, create and celebrate the music that moves them. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 19. Tickets \$35-\$75. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE BIG BOUNCE AMERICA Spend time with family and friends in a magical, candy-colored wonderland of action-packed inflatable adventure. Individual sessions are available to suit all age groups from toddlers through to adults only. Oct. 21-22, & 27-29. Tickets \$35-\$45. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

MADS TOLLING & JOHN R BURR: RAMBLIN' Two time Grammy Award Winner Mads Tolling & Grammy Nominee John R Burr perform in a live performance of their New Duo Album. John and Mads perform the beautiful piece, *Ashokan Farewell*. 8 p.m., Oct. 21. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

TELEGRAPH QUARTET, STRINGS Del Valle Fine Arts Presents Telegraph Quartet, strings, winners of the 2016 Naumburg competition and the 2014 Fischhoff Competition and now quartet-in-residence at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 21. Tickets \$55. Visit livmorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS JOHN TESH-BIG BAND LIVE This highly anticipated concert features Tesh's signature style, blending contemporary and traditional big band music in a spectacular performance that will have you tapping your feet and humming along. 3 p.m., Oct. 22. Tickets \$55-\$85. Visit livmorearts.org.

MISS FAYE CAROL JAZZ CONCERT

Enjoy an afternoon of live jazz music with the dynamic Miss Faye Carol, accompanied by pianist Joe Warner. 2 p.m., Oct. 22. Livermore Civic Center 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.

Talks

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-ags.org.

THE BEATLES: ABBEY ROAD TALK Community members are invited to learn about the history of The Beatles' *Abbey Road* album, presented by Dulais Rhys, Ph.D. He'll discuss this final, but controversial Beatles album and how the joined-up song fragments of the second side formed a musical gem. 7 p.m., Oct. 10. Livermore Civic Center Library.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB October speakers are Alicia Eltgroth and Pam Johansen from Alden Lane Nursery, whose presentation is titled "Fall Salads-From Garden to Table." They will walk through the basics of growing and preparing your own supply of delicious greens and salad fixings. 6-8 p.m., Oct. 12. Farmer's Theater on the Crosswinds Church property. Visit lavgc.org.

RANGER TALK ON MOUNTAIN LIONS Join an LARPD Ranger and learn about the cat of 1,000 names, 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.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS Chris Hennessy will present "How to Build Your Writer's Platform Using Storytelling Crossover Tips". Chris has been a full-time independent filmmaker, author and speaker in Northern California since 1990. Register by Oct. 19 at trivalleywriters.org. Las Positas College, 2 p.m., Oct. 21.

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.

Exhibits

THE DON CENTURY EXHIBIT Featuring memorabilia and artifacts from throughout the school's history with clips from interviews with alumni and

current and former faculty and staff. 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. Visit livmorearts.org/visual-arts-2.

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

Farmers' Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET The Pleasanton Farmers' Market is

Saturday year round, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. W. Angela St.

LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS' MARKET The Livermore Thursday Farmers' Market is 4-8 p.m., now through Oct. 12. 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 Recreation

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

See **CALENDAR** on Page 20

Employment

SENIOR PRODUCT MANAGER (Pleasanton, CA) Conduct user research w/ automotive dealerships to understand the nature of their business workflows & the reqmts necessary to streamline them by creating protocols & implmtg research studies, such as interviews, contextual inquiries, analysis of secondary data, etc. Conduct mkt research on competitive products to identify key mkt gaps & opportunities. Leverage the info gathered through research to translate users' business reqmts into product reqmts to create workflows, wireframes, & prototypes to explore different solutions for the business problems. Convert the product reqmts & dsgns into S/ware Reqmt Specs (SRS). Produce reports for the leadership team summarizing business intelligence data & technology trends to make recommendations for business strategy. Req. MS in S/ware Mgmt or closely rlted field, + 2 yrs exp in similar duties emphasizing product & project mgmt, reqmt gathering & prioritization, mkt & gap analysis, systems integration, & knowl of s/ware prgmg & data modeling. Salary: \$188,000/yr. Email cvr ltr & resume to Jenna Young, Tekion Corp, at jyoung@tekion.com.

Senior Manager, Product Management (Pleasanton, CA) Conduct user research w/ automotive dealerships to understand the nature of their business workflows & the reqmts necessary to streamline them by creating protocols & implmtg research studies, such as interviews, contextual inquiries, analysis of secondary data, qualitative methods, etc. Leverage the info gathered through research to translate users' business reqmts into product reqmts to create workflows, wireframes, & prototypes to explore different solutions for the business problems. Convert the product reqmts & dsgns into S/ware Reqmt Specs (SRS). Manage the 1st cloud-native automotive retail platform, Automotive Retail Cloud (ARC). Lead a global team across 3 teams: Service, Fixed Ops Integration, & Product Specialists. Conduct bi-wkly strategic 1:1 for long-term career growth, periodic coaching, & insightful feedback. Req. MS in Product Dvlpmt, Product Innovation, or rlted field, + 2 yrs exp in similar duties emphasizing user research, product reqmts gathering & analysis, project mgmt, UI/UX Dsgn & UAT. Salary: \$200,000/yr. Email cvr ltr & resume to Jenna Young, Tekion Corp, at jyoung@tekion.com.

SENIOR PRODUCT MANAGER (Pleasanton, CA) Conduct user research w/ automotive dealerships to understand the nature of their business workflows & the reqmts necessary to streamline them by creating protocols & implmtg research studies, such as interviews, contextual inquiries, analysis of secondary data, etc. Conduct mkt research on competitive products to identify key mkt gaps & opportunities. Leverage the info gathered through research to translate users' business reqmts into product reqmts to create workflows, wireframes, & prototypes to explore different solutions for the business problems. Convert the product reqmts & dsgns into S/ware Reqmt Specs (SRS). Produce reports for the leadership team summarizing business intelligence data & technology trends to make recommendations for business strategy. Req. MS in Human-Computer Interaction or closely rlted field, + 2 yrs exp in similar duties emphasizing product mgmt, user research, reqmt gathering & analysis, dvlpg & revising system dsgns. Salary: \$190,800/yr. Email cvr ltr & resume to Jenna Young, Tekion Corp, at jyoung@tekion.com.

Medallia, Inc. has the following position available in Pleasanton, CA: Sr. Sales Director, Enterprise Sales (CIPJB): Lead entire sales cycle from initial opportunity creation to finalizing opportunity outcome, this includes prospecting campaigns, driving the discovery process at meetings with both prospects & clients, forecasting, selling with Value Framework & ultimately closing the deal. Position based at HQ and may be assigned to unanticipated worksites throughout the U.S. as determined by management. Telecommuting permitted. Annual salary range: \$160,007.00 - \$180,007.00. Send resume to hiring@medallia.com. Must reference job title and job code CIPJB. Background checks required.

To advertise here please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 19

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

WATER EXERCISE AT DOLORES BENGTON AQUATIC CENTER Water exercise classes support the body and reduce risk of muscle or joint injury through the buoyancy of water and mitigation of gravity. Classes in deep and shallow water offered. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PICKLEBALL LESSONS IN PLEASANTON Pickleball is a fast, fun, social sport and great exercise for all ages and athletic backgrounds. It is now

offered through Lifetime Activities at Pleasanton Middle School. Visit lifetimeactivities.com.

Tradeshows, Festivals & Galas

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

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.

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

PRIDE FEST LIVERMORE Pride Fest Livermore returns to the Bankhead Plaza with a celebration for the whole family. Free and open to the public. 12-3 p.m., Oct. 21.

AIA DUSSERA DIWALI DHAMAKA AIA Dussera Diwali Dhaka Celebrates Diwali (Festival of Lights) with a fireworks display, Ravan Dahan, plus vendor booths featuring arts, crafts, clothing from India, food booths and a Cultural program featuring Bollywood dances. Noon-11 p.m., Oct. 21. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Oct. 11. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is 6 p.m., Oct. 12. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

LIVERMORE CITY COUNCIL MEETING The Livermore City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Oct. 9. Visit cityoflivermore.net. ■

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION The Pleasanton

Public Notices

EVMOD LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601130
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) EVMOD LLC, located at 37390 Cedar Blvd, Unit E., Newark, CA 94560, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
EVMOD LLC
37390 Cedar Blvd, Unit E., Newark, CA 94560
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/15/2023.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 29 2023.
(PLW Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27, 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)

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)

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)

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)

FLETCHER TOWERS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600974
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Fletcher Towers, located at 6088 Sunol Blvd, Suite 111, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
Mailing Address: PO BOX 70, 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 09/22/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 22 2023.
(PLW Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27, 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)

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)

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)

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)

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: Sep15, Sep 22, Sep 29, Oct 6) (PLW Sep 15, 22, 29 and Oct 6, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
STEVE SOVIERO, STEPHEN V SOVIERO
Case No.: 23PR043171
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/

City Village units hit the market in Bishop Ranch

First of three different housing types for sale now, set for move-in by early 2024

BY JEANITA LYMAN

Prospective residents are one step closer to moving into some of the hundreds of new housing units composing the long-discussed City Village project in central San Ramon, with thousands of home-shoppers already expressing interest in the ambitious planned community that is currently under construction.

The first of the anticipated 404 new homes went on the market with a starting price of \$1.1 million last month, according to developers.

“We feel incredibly excited to introduce a new vibrant neighborhood in such a premier location in Bishop Ranch” said Chris Neighbor, president of SummerHill Homes — the homebuilding company behind the project — in announcing the news on Sept. 12.

“Located in the heart of San Ramon, City Village will cater to the needs of the modern home-buyer by meeting the growing demand for centrally located housing in close proximity to major job centers, highly rated schools, entertainment and retail,” he continued.

Neighbor told the Weekly that despite being somewhat behind schedule amid historic storms over the past winter and early spring, he was expecting the first homes to be ready for residents by early next year.

“The first move-ins will probably be January or February, beginning of the year, so we’ll have people living there sooner rather than later,” Neighbor said.

Ultimately, he said that the ambitious mixed-use development would be unfurled on his company’s end over approximately four years, at a rate of approximately 100

homes being available each of the coming years.

The first units to hit the market are “The Courts” — one of the three different housing types that are set to make up the overall project — are among the planned 154 single-family homes ranging from three to four bedrooms on private lots between 2,176 and 3,096 square feet. The units range from two to three stories, with four different floor plans available.

Neighbor said that he expected the next units to be made available would be “The Towns” — which will ultimately consist of 136 detached, three-story townhomes ranging from three to four bedrooms and between 1,176 and 2,250 square feet — which he estimated would go on the market in the weeks ahead.

The third housing type is “The

Rows”, consisting of 114 detached three-story rowhomes, also with three or four bedroom options, and between 1,977 and 2,445 square feet, which Neighbor said he anticipated to go on sale in the spring.

While the construction phase of the project is set to roll out relatively quickly despite the weather-related delays, and in the wake of a years-long application and planning process, Neighbor noted that SummerHill Homes’ development of the City Village project was just one part of the overarching vision for city leaders and Sunset Development of a transit-friendly, walkable and mixed-use downtown area in the growing city over the next two decades.

“They have a 10- to 20-year horizon in looking at how they’re going to redevelop,” Neighbor said.

In addition to providing

hundreds of much needed housing units to the Bishop Ranch area, Sunset Development officials emphasized that the next steps for City Village are also key in their overall vision for the neighborhood.

“As SummerHill Homes makes homeownership at Bishop Ranch a reality, we embark on yet another remarkable stride in fulfilling our master plan,” Sunset Development President and CEO Alex Mehran Jr. said in the Sept. 12 announcement. “This momentous launch not only represents the first opportunity to live within Bishop Ranch but also signifies a steadfast commitment to the future of the San Ramon community.”

As of opening week, Neighbor said that approximately 2,500 prospective buyers had already expressed interest in the units now for sale. ■

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during Aug. 18 to Sept. 1 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin.

Pleasanton

- 5610 Belleza Drive** Subramanian Trust to S. & F. Kislay for \$875,000
- 921 Clinton Place** Liu Family Trust to V. & H. Samayamantri for \$1,248,000
- 7493 Flagstone Drive** Davis Family Trust to R. & N. Jain for \$1,675,000
- 7586 Flagstone Drive** W. & J. Hoffmann to M. & A. Kumar for \$1,575,000
- 751 Gamay Court** Mantel Trust to G. & A. Gurumurthy for \$1,550,000
- 3170 Half Dome Drive** Heggelund Family Trust to Dutra Family Trust for \$1,330,000
- 480 Montori Court** Williams 2011 Trust to Niranjana Trust for \$2,725,000
- 4037 Nice Court** Lefcourt Trust to V. Jagesia for \$925,000
- 2119 Rheem Drive** Delucia 2016 Trust to S. & B. Hota for \$1,180,000
- 5418 Ridgevale Road** May Living Trust to T. & S. Sinha for \$1,800,000
- 3488 Serra Circle** B. Shao to Tai Family Trust for \$1,200,000
- 7217 Valley Trails Drive** Huston Family Trust to T. & C. Lin for \$1,325,000
- 7906 Winged Foot Court** I. Bates to M. & M. Demir for \$1,501,000
- 3607 Woodbine Way** Daggett Properties LLC to B. Le for \$920,000
- 7302 Young Court** K. & E. Zamora to Q. & R. Brickley for \$2,850,000
- 1351 Bordeaux Street** Sager Trust to Dhurka Family Trust for \$2,750,000
- 7724 Creekside Drive** Rbr Realty LLC to A. & S. Danavandi for \$1,180,000
- 815 Division Street** J. Balousek to C. Wu for \$430,000
- 3790 Kamp Drive** Johnson Family Trust to O. & S. Jaganathan for \$1,300,000
- 2504 Larrikeet Court** Mode Family Trust to N. & G. Mittal for \$1,600,000

Livermore

- 1827 5th Street** Daya Living Trust to Davis-Devito Trust for \$955,000
- 2347 Chateau Way** Maenchen Living Trust to A. & A. Zlotnikov for \$1,410,000
- 1491 Chateau Common** Keefe Family Trust to J. Wright for \$905,000

5797 Edelweiss Way Lenahan Family Trust to B. Schultz for \$1,400,000

136 Edythe Street S. & L. Otterstetter to K. & V. Saini for \$1,040,000

1565 Elm Street C. Morgan to V. Sheth for \$1,035,000

4147 Findlay Way Walker Family Trust to S. & A. Chamkua for \$1,260,000

5329 Flagg Lane S. & D. Bahini to A. & D. Tashjian for \$2,170,000

1579 Fontonett Place K. Heilmann to S. & S. Mukherjee for \$2,075,000

746 Grace Street Carlon Living Trust to R. & T. Eckles for \$1,055,000

3948 Inverness Common Gellner-Watkins Trust to E. & D. Cortez for \$930,000

2563 Kellogg Loop Vanlooy Trust to V. & S. Kalidas for \$1,850,000

934 Loyola Way Mccaustland Trust to N. & J. Min for \$1,489,000

4586 Maureen Circle J. & Y. Eteve to D. & V. Patil for \$1,379,000

1309 Meadow Court L. & G. Matteucci to J. & S. Mckean for \$1,305,500

902 Old Oak Road W. Aston to A. & U. Batra for \$2,217,000

1529 Oslo Court L. & D. Acorn to J. & A. Arvanitis for \$1,400,000

26 Raccolio Way J. Callahan to Haque Family Trust for \$1,997,000

531 Ruth Way D. & B. Hester to S. & D. Dalai for \$1,133,000

5524 Shorehaven Circle Ferrall Living Trust to X. & L. Chan for \$1,115,000

788 Tranquility Circle #1 Magagnini Family Trust to L. Kharbanda for \$1,120,000

2679 Tuscany Court Renteria Family Trust to M. & Z. Fazalbhoj for \$2,135,000

1642 Alvarado Court Henderson Trust to Avery Property Management LLC for \$750,000

2368 Buena Vista Avenue Raymond Trust to L. Hua for \$1,525,000

2121 Chestnut Street D. Wallage to S. & P. Nallani for \$1,131,000

795 Daisyfield Drive A. Rathod to F. & L. Ray for \$1,700,000

598 Falcon Way S. Adams to C. Pehargou for \$955,000

168 Gillette Place #116 Gee Family Trust to Hemmerich Trust for \$860,000

1636 Knoll Way Cathcart Family Trust to L. & D. Korst for \$1,006,000

989 Lisbon Avenue Sutton Family Trust to J. & A. Beese for \$1,050,000

1072 Lomitas Avenue Escorcio Family Trust to M. & H. Jiang for \$1,335,000

2058 Monterey Drive C. & J. Townsend to A. & F. Thakkar for \$960,000

1087 Murrieta Boulevard #352 T. Hall to N. Dimitrov for \$459,000

1810 Peary Way R. Kadali to R. & A. Jha for \$815,000

1733 Pedrozzi Common P. Timmer to K. & H. Ngo for \$890,000

759 Pine Street M. Ware to T. & M. Pagett for \$599,000

1761 Prima Drive Desalles Family Trust to M. & C. Morrison for \$2,045,000

137 Rincon Avenue B. & T. Augustyn to Bay Area Executive Re & Dev Gr LLC for \$800,000

3064 Rivers Bend Circle P. Martinez to P. & K. Maltby for \$1,400,000

649 Sandalwood Drive #1 A. Cleveland to S. & A. Khadka for \$1,035,000

742 Shoemaker Drive J. & W. Martyn to G. & A. Macatbag for \$1,055,000

336 Tanager Road V. Kumar to Azim & Sultana Trust for \$1,550,000

561 Teal Court C. Thompson to R. & P. Haddad for \$1,641,000

148 Teasel Common Bjelland Trust to P. & S. Suryavanshi for \$1,013,000

1056 Verona Avenue Biermann Living Trust to R. Garingarao for \$965,000

1474 Wilton Road D. & R. Chimenti to S. & G. Singh for \$1,230,000

1459 Windsor Way Callen Trust to C. & T. Bodily for \$1,450,000

350 Wood Street #204 Kordes Family Trust to C. & G. Galvez for \$735,000

Dublin

7631 Arbor Creek Circle #111 Rowe Living Trust to I. & D. Esparza for \$550,000

5856 Cadence Avenue D. Chaudhary to A. & P. Arragattu for \$1,110,000

8351 Cavalier Lane R. Arora to Y. & R. Diep for \$1,140,000

3117 Colebrook Lane Cheung Family Trust to S. & L. Kothamasu for \$2,300,000

2906 Delamar Drive Shah Family Trust to F. & J. Zheng for \$3,225,000

3385 Dublin Boulevard #434 Cheung Trust to Chow Trust for \$735,000

5291 Salvatierra Court S. Zeng to P. & S. Poovala for \$1,722,000

2391 Valentino Drive B. Tian to P. & C. Chen for \$2,150,000

8352 Vomac Road Calwide Realty & Mortgage Inc to M. & J. Oh for \$1,368,000

10714 Wallace Lane #84 D. & D. Thomsen to D. & S. Nipunas for \$1,026,000

6924 Atlas Peak Drive S. & K. Shin to K. & A. Sharma for \$2,420,000

7439 Brigadoon Way Ahmadi Trust to H. Nam for \$850,000

5610 Central Parkway #202 T. & G. Washington to Chandnani Trust for \$1,220,000

4327 Clarinbridge Circle C. Filice to L. & J. Ly for \$635,000

7213 Cronin Circle #133 L. Lopes to S. Dhar for \$705,000

5501 De Marcus Boulevard #404 Chen Family Trust to S. & I. Mandloi for \$710,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Aug. 18-Sept. 1)

Total sales reported: 20
Lowest sale reported: \$430,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,850,000
Average sales reported: \$1,496,949

Livermore (Aug. 18-Sept. 1)

Total sales reported: 48
Lowest sale reported: \$905,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,217,000
Average sales reported: \$1,256,864

Dublin (Aug. 18-Sept. 1)

Total sales reported: 21
Lowest sale reported: \$550,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,225,000
Average sales reported: \$1,393,571

San Ramon (Aug. 28-Sept. 8)

Total sales reported: 26
Lowest sale reported: \$530,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,435,000
Average sales reported: \$1,391,846

Source: California REsource



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DRE 02101181

2nd Annual

CONNECT TO A Cause

We're so excited to announce our **2nd Annual Connect to a Cause**. We will be *GOING PINK* for the month of October 2023 in support of Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention. Join us in connecting to this cause!



XTREME MUSIC BINGO OCTOBER 25TH | 6-9PM

Join us at BottleTaps for our end-of-month fundraising event where 15% of the BottleTaps profits will be donated to **HERS Breast Cancer Foundation**. Additionally, there will be fun-filled raffle prizes, with all raffle ticket purchases donated as well!

Come out for drinks, food, music, and fun! You don't want to miss this event.

SCAN HERE TO RSVP!



WHAT DOES GOING PINK MEAN TO OUR TEAM?



KATIE MOE

FOUNDER | REALTOR | DRE #01507863

"I have always believed in doing things that make a direct impact. I am a mom to 3 girls and I want them to know that there are things they can do to support their health."



ELIAS MUNIZ

REALTOR | DRE #02158951

"Losing my grandmother to breast cancer made me a firm believer in early detection and treatment. Make cancer screening a regular part of your life!"



STEPHANIE HEVEZI

REALTOR | DRE #02131973

"I'm privileged to do my part in helping support the work to care for those currently undergoing treatment. Our prayers must be matched by physically doing something."



SANDRA KOZIMOR

REALTOR | DRE #01943317

"As a mother of 3 daughters I am deeply vigilant in the education of cancer prevention, detection and treatments. We all must join the fight!"



JENNY SHIBLAQ

REALTOR | DRE #02049561

"Like so many of us, I have lost close friends and loved ones to cancer. It is so important to find organizations that work on bettering the lives of the patients and their families."



CHLOE DERTINGER

MARKETING MANAGER

"By spreading awareness and supporting initiatives, I hope to help breast cancer be detected and treated effectively, lessening the burden it places on families and individuals."



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