

Pleasanton Weekly

Singing cowboys

Page 14

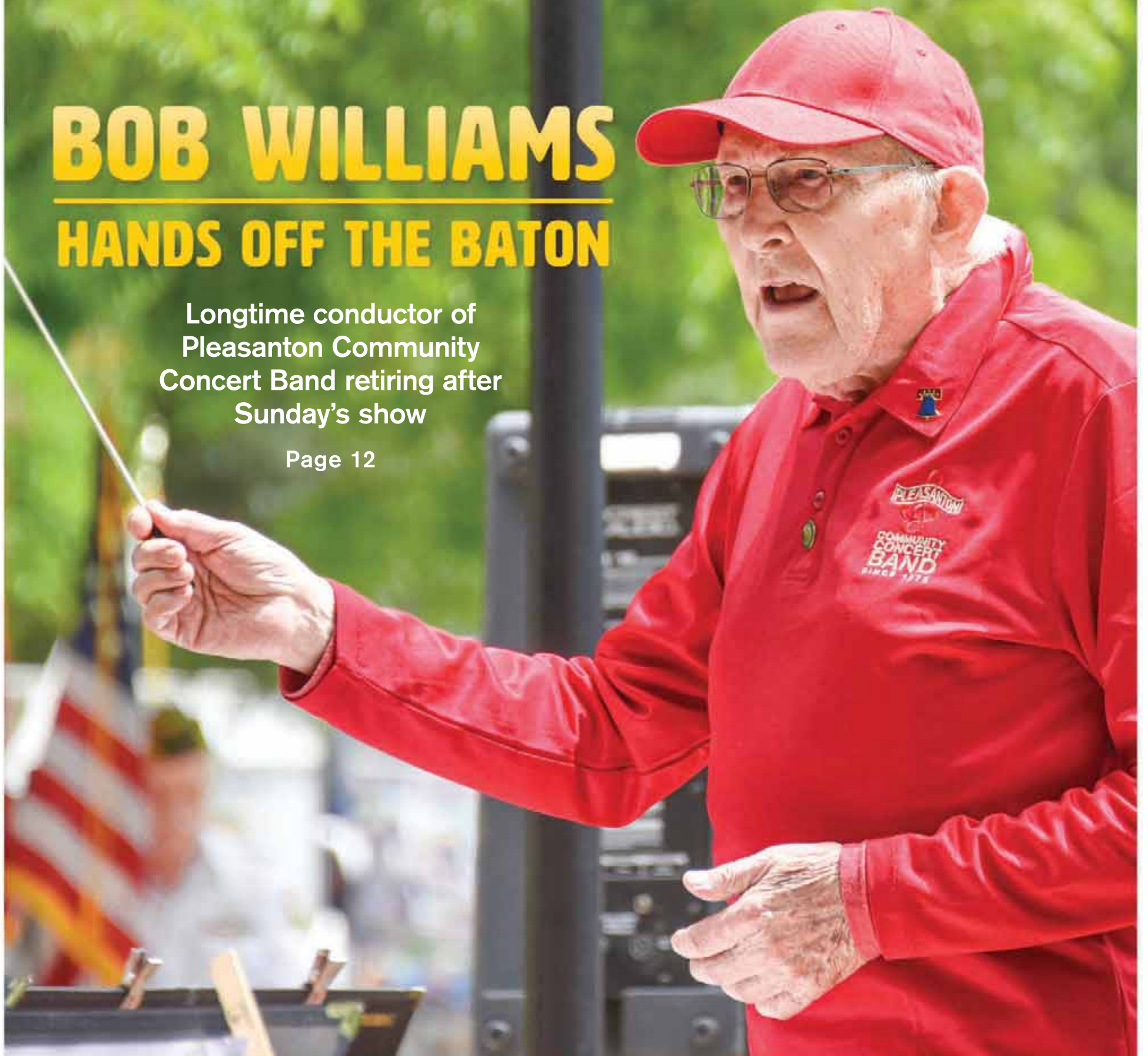
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BOB WILLIAMS HANDS OFF THE BATON

Longtime conductor of Pleasanton Community Concert Band retiring after Sunday's show

Page 12



- 5 | **NEWS** Teachers, PUSD admin address stalled bargaining
- 5 | **NEWS** Condo project poised to replace Santa Rita motel
- 17 | **SPORTS** Sophomore star spurs comeback win for Dons

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Invigorating innovation

The region's reputation of being a hub for innovation appears to be in great hands with the up-and-coming generation.

The Innovation Tri-Valley Leadership Group is honoring 11 of those standout young trailblazers with its 13th annual Tri-Valley DreamMakers & RiskTakers Awards next Tuesday at the Shannon Community Center in Dublin. The morning ceremony will be emceed by Stephanie Beasley, executive strategy professional at Sandia National Laboratories, and Las Positas College President Dyrrell Foster — the group's board chair and vice chair, respectively.

"The region's national research laboratories, top-tier school districts, and innovation-driven economy have nurtured a culture of curiosity, inspiring our students to take risks, think big, and to act locally," Innovation Tri-Valley CEO Katie Marcel said in a statement this week announcing the winners.

And what an award list it is.

The marquee Tri-Valley 2040 Regional Visionary Award is going to the lead team behind organizing the inaugural Youth Climate Summit centered on raising awareness and exploring collective solutions for climate change and related issues: Pleasanton's Sahil Mehta and Livermore's Shrish Premkrishna, Thaarak Sriram, Darshini Binduraj and Alexander Pepper.

"The students established partnerships with Quest Science Center and the Tri-Valley Air Quality Climate Alliance to produce climate literacy resolutions for the regional school districts, heat mapping in Livermore, waste-auditing schools, and performing energy efficiency research related to lighting and environmental restoration," ITV officials said.

The team award recognizes the students for accomplishments toward a regional goal in ITV's 2040 Vision Plan.

Leading off the individual awards is Dublin High School student Arjun Karur-Parekh, who has spearheaded the Gardeners of the Galaxy program to grow and distribute microgreens, including through a partnership with Fertile Groundworks to donate to Culinary Angels and Tri-Valley Haven. We spotlighted the Gardeners in a feature story earlier this year.

Trenton Thomsen, of Granada High School in Livermore, is being recognized for being "a social innovator with a commitment to combating hate ... (and) drive positive

change," ITV officials said. "Trenton demonstrates leadership, courage, and a dedication to addressing complex problems."

Here in Pleasanton, Amador Valley High's Yatin Bayya is a published author in computer science whose recent Google extension "Easy Accent Marks" has 96,000 weekly users and featured status under "Top Picks" on the Google Webstore homepage, according to ITV.

"A noninvasive, at-home, low-cost, way to measure anemia" is the brainchild of Monte Vista High School (Danville) student Krisha Singhani, who drew inspiration from her passions for gender equity and diagnostics to create "FEMale: A Diagnostic and Evaluation System for Iron Deficiency and Anemia in Teenage Girls Due to Their Menstrual Cycle." She is pursuing a patent for FEMale, per ITV.

We also interviewed Singhani this year, for a story after she won Rep. Mark DeSaulnier's Congressional App Challenge for her TrueDetect app to help users measure their stress levels.

How about sending work to the moon? That's what is ahead for honoree Gia Keiper, of Middle College High School in the Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program.

An engineer and inventor with projects across the board and fresh off designing an eVTOL (electric vertical take-off and landing) aircraft "that combines market demands with maximum performance and zero emission," Keiper was invited to co-create a research payload with five other students for an upcoming NASA mission that will actually go to the moon, according to ITV.

Rounding out the awards is Daniel Santoyo of Las Positas College.

ITV officials noted that Santoyo has "profoundly influenced Las Positas College's Tutoring Center processes by developing data visualization platforms using key performance indicators for student retention and satisfaction. Taking his knowledge and experience beyond the Tutoring Center, Daniel spent last summer conducting bioinformatics research on mice RNA sequences as a research fellow at UC Merced."

Just such an impressive group of students representative of the success demonstrated by youngsters in the classroom and in the real world across the Tri-Valley.

For tickets to the DreamMakers & RiskTakers program, visit innovationtrivalley.org. ■

About the Cover

Pleasanton Community Concert Band conductor Bob Williams is set for his final concert with the baton this Sunday at the Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade. Photo by Christina Gray, Bella Luna Studios. Cover design by Doug Young.

Vol. XXIV, Number 41

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Where do you like to go in the Bay Area to enjoy our beautiful fall foliage?



Jordan Toro
Construction sales

I love taking a drive out to Half Moon Bay. The foliage out there is awesome, and I enjoy visiting the pumpkin patches and other local attractions, even though the roads are sometimes congested during this season. It's all about the timing.



Stephanie MacKirdy
Homemaker

We like to enjoy the fall foliage up in Truckee, where we spend a lot of our free time. Our favorite spot is an Aspen grove there. It's a bit beyond the Bay Area, but it's still Northern California, about three hours away, and it is just so gorgeous.



Helen Chen, with Diana
Health educator

My favorite spot is on Wright Avenue in Sunnyvale. This entire long street is lined with trees that have gorgeous colorful leaves. And there are also lots of leaves that have fallen to the ground. It's very fleeting. But for about two weeks every year, it is really beautiful. I always look forward to it.



Christina Corsello
Actuary

I just recently moved to the Bay Area from Connecticut and am not yet familiar with the area. So I will read everyone else's answers to this question in order to figure out the best place to go to appreciate the Bay Area's fall foliage. I'm sure it's beautiful.



Michael Jurich, with Birdie
Educator

I have to admit I'm a bit biased because I grew up right here in Pleasanton. My favorite place to enjoy our fall foliage is Muirwood Park. I go there regularly with friends and family members, and of course my dogs, Birdie and Buster.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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Fairlands debrief

Pleasanton Unified School District officials are holding a community meeting at Fairlands Elementary School on Monday evening in the wake of an intruder allegedly camping out unnoticed inside a campus storage room overnight last month.

"The Board of Trustees will receive a report from staff concerning the safety concerns at the school, and an update on efforts to refine District security protocols with the engagement from Pleasanton's City Manager and Chief of Police," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund wrote in his email newsletter last week.

Fairlands families have been vocally critical of safety protocols at the school after the intruder's discovery and subsequent campus-wide lockdown on Oct. 6. Berkeley transient Rhodney Henderson, 32, faces felony counts of second-degree burglary and having weapons on school grounds (knives from the school kitchen), plus special allegations around prior convictions, in connection with the case.

The meeting is set for 5-6 p.m. Monday (Nov. 6) in the multipurpose room at Fairlands, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd.

Veterans parade

More than 100 community organizations are expected to participate in the 26th annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade and Concert scheduled for Sunday (Nov. 5) from 1-2 p.m. on Main Street in Pleasanton.

"Leading the parade this year will be the U.S. Army Color Guard comprised of members of the Army Recruiting Station in Livermore," organizers said. "Following the color guard will be four grand marshals: two from the World War II era and two Korean war veterans."

For more information, visit www.trivalleyvdp.com.

Housing bond info

Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert is coordinating a community town hall for East County residents next week to provide information and receive public input about a potential Bay Area-wide affordable housing bond, eyed for the 2024 ballot to raise \$10 billion to \$20 billion.

The general obligation bond, if at the \$10 billion level, would result in a tax of \$10.26 on \$100,000 assessed value, or just over \$100 for a million-dollar home on annual property tax bills, according to Haubert's office.

The town hall is set for Thursday (Nov. 9) at 6 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room at the Pleasanton Public Library at 400 Old Bernal Ave., as well as viewable online. ■

Teachers, PUSD reps address bargaining at first board meeting amid impasse

Union supporters rally around downtown before packing boardroom to show solidarity in front of trustees

By Christian Trujano

Roughly 400 Pleasanton Unified School District teachers marched down to last week's school board meeting and packed the room to voice their support with the teacher union's requests for better compensation.

The large group of teachers gathered at Lions Wayside Park on Oct. 26 — an hour before the meeting started — and split into two groups. One went down Main Street and the other group went south on First Street before both reconvened and made their way to the district headquarters nearby on Bernal Avenue.

At the meeting, over 30 speakers took the microphone and delivered impassioned speeches on why they believed the district should work with the Association of Pleasanton Teachers to reach a fair contract that pays teachers what they deserve.

"According to the California School Boards Association, the general purpose of a school board is to advocate for, support and direct the educational resources of their community. I can't think of a more important educational resource than our teachers," Pleasanton resident

Mary Corpora, told the Board of Trustees during the Oct. 26 meeting.

"Textbooks, they're important. The school calendar, that's important. Technology facilities, they're all important. But none of those things matter without the expertise, the knowledge and the caring of our teachers. So why can't you support and advocate for our teachers?" Corpora added.

Following the hour and a half of public comments pleading the district to repurpose and reprioritize its budget, PUSD assistant superintendent of business services Ahmad Sheikholeslami made it clear during his budget presentation later on in the meeting that meeting the APT's demands would most likely mean future budget cuts, mass layoffs and bankruptcy.

"In the model where we would provide a 15% salary increase, plus the health benefits, we wouldn't be able to meet our obligations in the current year," Sheikholeslami told the trustees. "We would basically have no reserves and in the subsequent years we would start to deficit spend at a level that would put the district at imminent financial insolvency."

"The total ongoing cost (for APT's compensation requests) would be about 21% or \$23 million ongoing on an annual basis," he added. "When we talk about 'you have the money,' I may have the money now, but we have to have the money in a multi-year fashion."

In bargaining talks this academic year, APT originally requested a 15% salary increase, to which the district responded with a 6.3% pay raise — that offer was not received well with the teachers who packed the school board room on Oct. 12 and demanded for a better offer, which never materialized.

As a result, on Oct. 24, the APT declared an impasse in negotiations with the district after the two sides remained well apart on proposed salary increases, after APT changed its offer to 14.25% and the district countered with a 6.5% increase.

"This week in negotiations APT worked extremely hard to adjust their student centered proposals to aid and repurposing PUSD's budget in order to support students and educators," APT President Cheryl Atkins told the board at the beginning of the board meeting two nights later.

"However, based on district management's most recent counterproposal; APT's concessions over the past year; and management statements, that despite the movement that APT has made, these concessions will not structurally affect the money that district management can put on the table ... this is why the Association of Pleasanton Teachers has declared impasse," Atkins added.

After Atkins was a line of speakers consisting of everyone from new Pleasanton residents who moved to the area solely for the schools and were mad that teachers were being put in this position to longtime teachers who have had to work two jobs just to make ends meet — and folks in between.

"I too have worked a second job to support my family and have been for the last 10 years. The majority of my income from my second job takes care of my health insurance," said Monte Martella, special education teacher at Village High School.

Martella said that he has been at PUSD for 18 years and had worked at Foothill High School for 14 years

See **TEACHERS** on Page 10



FILE PHOTO BY JEREMY WALSH

This single-story motel on Santa Rita Road appears on its way to being torn down and replaced by three-story condo buildings. The project by developer City Venture cleared a key city hurdle earlier this week.

Condo project poised to replace Tri-Valley Inn & Suites

Developer seeks to build 42 units in 3-story buildings

By Christian Trujano

Pleasanton's zoning administrator on Monday approved the design plans for City Venture's proposed Harmony Condominiums project that would demolish the Tri-Valley Inn & Suites in order to construct a 42-unit residential development.

According to the zoning administrator hearing's agenda report, the development — which would be located where the single-story motel currently stands on Santa Rita Road, between Valley and Mohr avenues — would include seven three-story buildings of market-rate "townhome-style

condominiums" ranging in size from approximately 1,403 to 2,150 square feet.

"The project will provide 42 new residential units, which will assist the city in meeting its Housing Element goals," Pleasanton

See **CONDOS** on Page 6

Dublin term limit debate continues

Special election back in play for possible ballot measure

By Nicole Gonzales

With the most restrictive municipal term limits out of any neighboring Tri-Valley cities, Dublin officials have long considered if, how and when to expand their current election policies.

The Dublin City Council in June debated whether to place such a measure on the next general ballot in November 2024 or in a special ballot in the spring, indicating a preference at that time to wait until the general election because an off-schedule ballot could cost between \$239,449 and \$307,863.

But after a subsequent council

See **TERM LIMITS** on Page 11

Sunflower Hill unveils new 60-unit affordable housing project

Residential community in Dublin will serve adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities

By NICOLE GONZALES

A new development project recently announced by Sunflower Hill and Dublin city officials aims to bring an estimated 60 affordable housing units to the area to serve adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, allowing them a safe space to work, learn and thrive.

Sunflower Hill at Grace Pointe was unveiled during the nonprofit's 10th anniversary gala on Sept. 30. The housing community is planned to sit on the corner of Dublin Boulevard and Brannigan Street on a 1.83-acre piece of land, adjacent to the new Dublin Centre development by Landsea

"Dublin has a strong commitment to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities," Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez said at

the Sunflower Hill gala. "From the organizations in our community providing early intervention services to the strong inclusive programs at our schools, as well as our workability programs, we want to send a strong message that Dublin is a place where all are welcome."

"This population is among the most vulnerable when it comes to housing. Sunflower Hill at Grace Pointe will help address the significant affordable housing needs in our region," Hernandez added.

According to Sunflower Hill, the development will include a community room, teaching kitchen, fitness center, outdoor courtyard and garden area. Residents will be able to partake in on-site enrichment activities and programs.

The housing complex will also feature "Grace Gallery," a dedicated

art creation space that will allow for partnerships with local organizations and artistic exhibitions.

"We are so very grateful to the city of Dublin for their commitment to affordable housing," Sunflower Hill Executive Director Jen Lenard-Benson said. "After celebrating our 10-year anniversary, it's time to look ahead to the future and Sunflower Hill at Grace Pointe allows us to continue to create places and spaces where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can live and thrive."

Sunflower Hill is able to develop the estimated 60 affordable housing units by partnerships with Satellite Affordable Housing Associates, Dahlin Architects and the city of Dublin.

"Public-private partnerships like this one are key to achieving that



COURTESY SUNFLOWER HILL

Rendering shows proposed Sunflower Hill at Grace Pointe development in Dublin.

success," Lenard-Benson added.

Founded by Susan Houghton in 2012, Sunflower Hill is a nonprofit that seeks to create housing opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Tri-Valley.

In the years since its inception, the organization has helped to establish and plan accessible units and larger housing communities. Its first-ever community housing project, Irby Ranch in Pleasanton, opened in 2020 and offered 31 affordable housing units.

The group continues to partner with local governments to plan

future housing projects.

Sunflower Hill at Lafayette Lane, currently in the development financing stage, will open up 38 more units in the community. In collaboration with Eden Housing, Sunflower Hill also plans to add 22 affordable units at the pre-approved Francis Ranch development in Dublin.

In addition to living in the residential communities, Sunflower Hill clients participate in a number of organized group events, crafts and outings.

For more information on Sunflower Hill, its mission and its housing developments, visit sunflowerhill.org. ■

CONDOS

Continued from Page 5

communications manager Heather Tiernan told the Weekly. "Each townhome is three stories with a

garage and two floors of living space above. The units will be sold as condominiums."

The garages in each townhome will be able to fit two cars, according to Tiernan, but there will only be

two guest spaces for the site, which she said complies with Pleasanton Municipal Code and Objective Design Standards requirements.

Following the design review approval by Eric Luchini, a senior planner with the city serving as acting zoning administrator for the matter, the project would need to return to the Pleasanton Planning Commission for final map adoption and to the City Council for consideration of an affordable housing agreement — with the developer hoping to pay a fee rather than provide below-market units onsite.

The Tri-Valley Inn & Suites property at 2025 Santa Rita Road, owned by Pete Patel and KDP Corp., was among 19 sites included in Pleasanton's certified Pleasanton's 2023-2031 Housing Element to accommodate the city's mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation tally of 5,965 new housing units — 2,758 of which are targeted toward lower-income households.

"We appreciate how much work and effort went into the city's Housing Element," Luke Morris, a development manager at City Ventures — the developer behind the condo project — told the Weekly on Tuesday. "We're looking forward to bringing sustainably designed homes and open space to one of Pleasanton's Housing Element sites."

Apart from the 34-room motel, which takes up 1.96 acres of land, the Curry Cravings restaurant located at the site will also be torn down.

According to the zoning hearing staff report, the site is also part of a larger 2.3-acre site that includes the Lockhart Lane right-of-way, which will be used as a main entry point to the Harmony Condominiums.

The buildings will range in height

from 33 feet to 35 feet — however, the heights are being measured from the "adjoining grade to the midpoint of the sloping roof," according to city staff. That does not include the additional 42-inch parapet that is required per the city's objective design standards.

"Per the (objective design standards), the maximum allowed height is 36 feet for sites with density between 14-29 units per acre," the staff report states.

Pleasanton resident Brian Casey, who lives directly right behind the motel site, told the Weekly that while he doesn't necessarily object to the development, he has several concerns with the specifics of the project.

"Every property owner has the right to do what they want to do on the property, I get it," Casey said. "But when you look at the sheer size of the development, which is 42 units on 1.93 acres; that is a lot of units on that small piece of property."

Casey said that he had issues with the lack of guest and overall parking, saying that people use garages for storage, park their second cars elsewhere, have kids or friends visiting who have cars of their own.

He also had issues with what the townhomes will do to the traffic in that area given the traffic coming from commuters and folks going to Amador Valley High School, which would make getting in and out of those townhomes difficult.

However, Tiernan said that the site was already evaluated for traffic impacts as part of the city's Housing Element final program environmental impact review (FEIR) and that the traffic impact would not be that significant.

She explained that traffic impacts

are measured using vehicle miles traveled (VMT), which measures the amount and distance of vehicle travel attributed to a project and specifically focuses on "determining the origin and destination of travel patterns."

She said that while the VMT analysis for the site showed the impacts did not exceed the impacts anticipated in the FEIR, staff also evaluated the impact of the proposed development on level of service, which also did not show too much change.

"The 42 units produce approximately 30 vehicle trips in the peak hour," she said. This equates to one additional vehicle at the intersection of Santa Rita and Valley every cycle, which will have a less than significant impact on the intersection operation or level of service."

Apart from the traffic impacts, Casey's other main issue was that the condos will be sold at market rate because City Venture will be looking to pay the city's affordable housing fee in-lieu of providing affordable units on site.

He said he didn't appreciate the fact that the developer is looking to build these non-affordable condos that are going to be too tall compared to the single-family homes surrounding it and that will not have enough parking space, just so that City Venture can cash out and leave the city with these problems.

Even though the city's zoning administrator already approved the design review for the project, the city's Planning Commission will still need to review the project's vesting tentative map next Wednesday (Nov. 8).

There will also be two hearings regarding the affordable housing agreement for the developer to pay the city in order to opt out of building affordable housing. ■

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Pleasanton council approves successive raises for city manager

Also: City management, confidential employees receive 4.25% pay bump

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council unanimously agreed to amend the city manager's employment contract to give him a 6.25% salary increase this year and another raise at the same rate early next year.

According to the staff report for the Oct. 17 council meeting, City Manager Gerry Beaudin's monthly salary for the rest of this year will be raised from \$24,500 to \$26,031. Then, starting on Feb. 1, 2024, Beaudin's monthly salary will go up



Gerry Beaudin

again to \$27,658, which translates to him making a yearly salary of \$331,896.

The amendment was approved by the council as part of its consent calendar — which are items that are routine in nature and are typically approved by a single vote without much discussion — after several discussions on Beaudin's performance evaluation were conducted over the past few months.

"At its special meetings on Aug. 15, Sept. 19, and Oct. 9, 2023, the City Council considered Mr. Beaudin's accomplishments as the city's chief executive, noting completion of priority projects, management of hundreds of staff, hiring new department heads, facilitating many capital improvement projects, smooth

delivery of day-to-day services and superior operations of the city," the staff report stated.

The report further stated that Beaudin's first raise puts the city manager at 8.4% below the mean salary of 16 other comparable cities, according to survey data from July. After his raise in February, he will be placed at 1.52% below the mean of that same survey.

"This is appropriate considering his performance and in the context of the market for city managers, compensation for city managers within the city's comparison agencies and salary compaction within the organization," according to the staff report.

In addition to his compensation increase, Beaudin's contract was also

updated in regards to his deferred compensation, which is an addition to an employee's regular compensation that is set aside to be paid at a later date. The city will now contribute 3% annually to his deferred compensation plan starting in January.

Other adjustments to his contract include vacation leave, which he will accrue at a rate of 25 days per year; vehicle provisions where he will select either a monthly car allowance of \$550 or a vehicle furnished by the city; and professional development perks where the city will pay for him to go to professional city and county management conferences.

Another amendment to Beaudin's contract was to modernize its termination clause, which has to do with what happens if Beaudin or the city decide to part ways.

According to the staff report, if either decides to terminate the contract, Beaudin will "not be removed during the 90-day period preceding or following any city election for membership on the City Council, or

during the 90-day period following any change in membership of the City Council, except upon four-fifths vote of the City Council."

In other business on the Oct. 17 consent calendar, the council approved a 4.25% pay schedule increase for management and confidential employees.

Among the dozens of positions included in that job category are Pleasanton Police Chief David Swing, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Chief Joe Testa and heads of the different city departments.

According to the staff report, the financial impact of the increase to the city would be approximately \$665,000 for fiscal year 2023-24. Because the LPPD expenses are shared by both cities, approximately \$27,000 of the annual cost will be paid by the city of Livermore as part of the approved cost sharing formula.

"Sufficient funds are set aside in the budget to cover the recommended increase," according to the staff report. ■

Livermore to restart exchange program with sister city in Japan

Longtime tradition returns after pandemic pause

BY CIERRA BAILEY

The cities of Livermore and Yotsukaido, Japan, will resume their sister city cultural exchange program for youth next fall, following a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yotsukaido — located about 40 miles from Tokyo in Chiba Prefecture — is a city of similar population and socioeconomic circumstances to those of Livermore.

Founded in 1977, the exchange program aims to create lasting bonds of friendship, acceptance and education between students in the two cities, according to a statement from Livermore officials.

The sister city relationship was revamped in 2001 with the start of the middle school student exchange program. Prior to the pandemic pause, middle school students from Livermore would visit Yotsukaido for

a week in October.

They stay with local families with students the same age, going to school with them, experiencing the daily lives of their host family and touring the region. In March, the Yotsukaido students come to Livermore and reunite with their friends from the fall visit, participating in school and experiencing American life.

"For 45 years, Livermore has treasured our Sister City relationship with Yotsukaido, Japan. As we come out of the recent pandemic, we welcome the renewal of our student exchange program and the enduring friendships that it has fostered," said Livermore Mayor John Marchand.

The exchange is set to return in October 2024.

The Livermore school district partners with the Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City Organization and is already working on plans to welcome

the Yotsukaido students to their schools with special programs, tours and bonding activities.

"We look forward to the return of the Livermore-Yotsukaido Sister City Organization's student exchange program. It gives our students an incredible opportunity to travel abroad and immerse themselves in another culture," Livermore schools Superintendent Chris Van Schaack said.

"We also look forward to welcoming students from Yotsukaido to observe our customs and way of life in our schools and community. We are fortunate to have a longstanding, dedicated organization like LYSCO that continues to bring these opportunities to our youth," he added.

As a student ambassador, Nola McAllister shared the knowledge gained from when she was part of the student exchange.

"I was selected as a student ambassador for the Livermore Yotsukaido exchange program in 2019. I had the best experience of my life learning and immersing myself in a new culture, trying new foods, meeting new people, adhering to new customs, and learning a little bit of the language. The opportunity allowed me to further my leadership skills and grow as a human being in a world that extends beyond just one town and country," she said.

Student ambassador Claudia Bui also shared positive reflections about the trip.

"To say that this experience has made an impact on my life is an understatement," she said. "LYSCO has been described as a cultural exchange between two cities, but it has brought lifelong friendships that I have maintained since my travels to Japan. This unique opportunity to travel with other students and live with a host family has taught me many valuable insights. I highly recommend and encourage students to apply to this

program so that they can have the experience of a lifetime."

Monique McAllister was an adult chaperone for a previous visit, escorting 20 students to Japan. She said the adventure reinforced her love for the LYSCO cultural exchange.

"I was one of the selected chaperones for the Livermore Yotsukaido 2019 exchange and participated in the year-long preparation ahead of departure. Being part of the LYSCO-Yotsukaido experience was not only a sister city cultural exchange, but a continuation of our enduring global connections," she said.

Students who are currently in seventh grade can apply for the program in spring 2024. The trip will take place in October 2024. City officials said there will be a forthcoming mandatory informational meeting for interested students and parents.

Due to the popularity of the program and the limited number of spaces available, there is an application and interview process. Visit <https://lyscoorg.wordpress.com>. ■

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CHUCK DECKERT

Marching to their best beat

Thousands of the most talented teenage musicians converged onto Pleasanton last Saturday for the 49th annual Foothill Band Review, which included a special parade down Main Street and competitive performances at Foothill and Amador Valley high schools throughout the day. Enjoy a collection of Chuck Deckert's photos from the parade online now at PleasantonWeekly.com.

People can no longer comment virtually at council meetings after split vote

Due to 'zoombombing' trend, only in-person or written remarks will be accepted for public record

By Christian Trujano

Pleasanton residents will no longer be able to call in virtually during City Council meetings to make comments over Zoom or by phone following a 3-2 decision vote by the councilmembers at their last meeting.

In recommending the shift back to the pre-pandemic commenting rules, city staff cited other government meetings in neighboring cities, like Livermore, where people have used virtual public comment sessions to make hateful comments or remarks, usually anonymously.

"If people want to espouse hate speech, let them come here and do it, rather than hiding behind the shield of a virtual protective cloaking," Councilmember Jeff Nibert said during the Oct. 17 meeting. "I know virtual public comment was something that was enacted during the COVID pandemic. We're beyond that now. I don't think it's necessary to have it anymore."

The change to its public comment policies was initially supposed to be voted on by the council during its consent calendar,

which are items that are routine in nature and are typically approved by a single vote. However, Vice Mayor Jack Balch pulled the item for discussion because he said virtual comments reduced barriers for residents to engage with their local government.

"I fundamentally believe reducing access through virtual comment is not the direction we should be going for the most local form of government," Balch told the dais.

Balch, along with Councilmember Julie Testa, voted against the motion mainly because they felt there was value in giving people that option of calling in from home despite the possibility of hate speech.

"I'm very uncomfortable with taking away something that I think has been a real asset for a lot of our community because of the potential of something that will make us uncomfortable," Testa said.

Now, only council members will be allowed to participate in meetings by calling in remotely under emergency circumstances. Meetings themselves will still be

viewable virtually by real-time video, but live public comment will be limited to in-person speakers only. Residents can also still submit written comments as well, per state law.

Councilmembers Nibert and Valerie Arkin, along with Mayor Karla Brown, all pointed to the hate speech being the main issue with virtual comments but also said that the city had only accepted in-person comments prior to the pandemic. They also said that residents still have plenty of avenues to get their voices heard, such as emailing or calling members of the dais.

"We are always diligent about our email and we certainly take phone calls, we certainly meet with people throughout the month, not just the day of a council meeting," Brown said during the meeting. "So I'm very proud that we are available to talk to people, we're here to listen, we're aware of what they're thinking."

Brown specifically cited the zoombombing incident that happened in Livermore last month and said that while it was horrific,

virtual public comments are not legally required now that the pandemic restrictions have been lifted and that getting rid of that option limits people calling in from outside of the city and making those type of comments.

Arkin, however, had a slightly different outlook on the situation as she said that while she does think residents can call and email as they have done in the past before the pandemic, she would have agreed with Balch and Testa if the city would have been able to authenticate people speaking virtually before they made a comment. But she also said that because everything is returning more or less to normal, the city had already operated without virtual public comments in the past and the city can't regulate Zoom bombers, she had to side with Nibert and Brown on taking away virtual comments.

And while Testa tried to offer some alternative solution to the issue of "zoombombing", like requiring virtually commenters to turn on their cameras while talking, she and Balch held their ground of dissenting against the

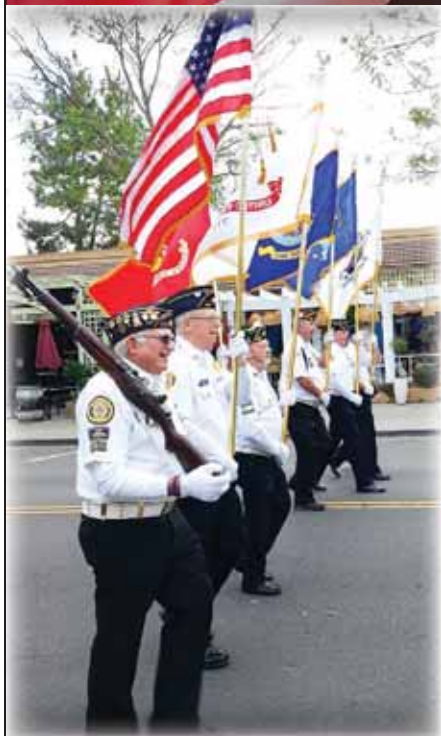
council majority's decision on the grounds that calling in from home has significant value to those who want to participate in local government but who might not have the time to go to the meetings in person.

Testa also asked that with taking that option away, she would at least like the city to look at ways to have more definitive times for people to speak earlier in the meetings so that they don't have to wait hours for the item that they would like to speak on, even if that might not be the best practice as Brown said.

"To be able to Zoom in from home, be able to put your kids to bed, kind of keep an eye on the meeting and then still be able to participate and speak from home without the complete disruption to your family ... it has had an enormous amount of value," Testa said. "To take that away, I would request that we look at what can be done so that people can have definitive times that they can show up and speak, instead of having to sit for four hours for their three minutes." ■

26th Annual Tri-Valley Veteran's Day Parade

Sunday, November 5, 2023 starting at 1pm
Main Street in Pleasanton



Join the celebration as we honor those who served our nation.

Featuring two Pleasanton residents who served during WWII and two Pleasanton residents who served in the Korean War.

2:00 PM Band concert
featuring the Pleasanton Community Concert Band
Under the direction of Bob Williams
In front of the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Hall
301 Main Street

Special thanks to all who have worked so hard to make this year's parade the biggest and best ever. This will indeed be a special event that is not to be missed.



TERM LIMITS

Continued from Page 5

discussion in August, a special election in 2024 on term limits could be back in play — and a final scheduling decision could come this month.

“I support responsible term limits and other good government measures that achieve the goal of allowing elected officials to govern with good foundational experience and less political self-interest,” Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez told the Weekly. “We must reduce the role of special interest influence in elections and minimize the temptation for political musical chairs.”

“In my view, term limits are only one component of a broader discussion on Government Responsibility and Accountability, particularly when we see gridlock from national leaders,” added Hernandez, who would be termed out in 2024 under current city code. “Ultimately, voters should decide what form of good government measures, which includes term limits, feels appropriate to them.”

The city now limits position terms to no more than eight consecutive years in any combination of mayoral or regular council seats. Pleasanton and Livermore, for example, also have eight-year limits for mayor or council but they expand the maximum to 16 straight years a person is elected to the council and then mayor, or vice versa.

Any changes to term limits would require voter approval. While Dublin officials have voiced their opinion that the city would benefit from updating the policy, they disagreed about when to place the issue on the ballot as well as what the new terms would look like.

Councilmember Jean Josey stated that her views on the issue have not changed since earlier this year. While she supports updating the limit, she doesn't feel that the measure is warranted to be on a special ballot.

“I have a big concern with putting it on the march ballot,” Josey said. “I don't see the urgency of making it a primary ballot. It's been this way since 1996 and waiting an extra six months isn't going to make a difference.”

“The other detail of course is does it apply to any of us,” she added, alluding to the logistical factor that Hernandez would be termed out if the limit were not changed before the November 2024 election cycle. “I think we only get one shot at getting this passed for the citizens of Dublin, and I think that if people think that we are attempting to advance our own terms, it fails.”

Josey and Councilmember Sherry Hu have each announced

their intent to run for mayor in 2024, with the presumption that Hernandez would be ineligible after serving four years on the council and four years as mayor.

Fellow Councilmember Kashef Qaadri shared the same viewpoint when speaking with the Weekly, saying the costs for a special ballot would be an unnecessary expense.

“The idea of spending around \$250,000 to \$300,000 for a single ballot measure doesn't align with my perspective,” Qaadri said. “I fail to perceive any pressing or immediate necessity for it. These significant financial resources could be much better spent on public services such as additional programs/ services, addressing affordable housing, improved infrastructure or other pressing needs within our community.”

Qaadri explained that the prospect of raising the term limit in Dublin has both advantages and disadvantages.

“Extending term limits is a significant decision that can have far-reaching consequences that are both positive and negative, and as such, this decision ultimately rests with the voters,” he said. “Extending term limits can offer experienced leaders more time to work on their agendas and build on their achievements, while it can also allow voters to retain leaders they believe are effective. On the other hand it can potentially lead to issues such as reduced opportunities for new voices and ideas in our city.”

The councilmember also discussed the impact raising the limit would have on current elected officials.

“The key lies in ensuring that a decision regarding term limits, including their applicability to current councilmembers, is made through a transparent, fair and democratic process involving public debate and discussion,” Qaadri said. “This way, the decision is made in a manner that best serves the interests of our community and upholds broader democratic principles.”

Dublin Vice Mayor Michael McCorriston in June supported placing the measure on the March 2024 ballot, emphasizing its timely manner.

“In terms of when this should be placed ...it's not so much about cost in my head, as it is (thinking if) this good for the city and good for our voters,” McCorriston said. “Having it on the ballot beforehand is in the best interest of the voters, I don't want to prolong this. Get it on the march ballot — get it in front of voters sooner rather than later.”

Dublin councilmembers are set to continue the discussion during a meeting this month, with a specific date not yet clear. ■

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Bob Williams hands off the baton

Longtime conductor of Pleasanton Community Concert Band retiring after Sunday's show

By JERRI PANTAGES LONG

We have only one more chance to see H. Robert Williams in action as the conductor of the Pleasanton Community Concert Band.

This Sunday (Nov. 5), he will raise his baton like a magic wand for a final time to transform the individual band members into a harmonious whole as they perform after the Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade in front of the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street. No magician's wand has greater power than the baton of a talented conductor — and Bob (as he prefers to be called) certainly belongs in that category.

Bob has been the band's conductor for 39 of its 48 years. Nine days after his final appearance before the band, he will celebrate his 91st birthday.

It is fair to say that Bob's entire life has been in preparation for this concert. Many things have changed in his life over the past nine decades — he has lived in five states, three marriages, two careers and one son — but music has been his constant focus.

His start toward his musical career began when Bob had the good fortune to be born into a musical family in Norristown, Penn. His mother was a church organist and also the piano accompanist for the local elementary school's music classes and chorus. Some of Bob's earliest memories are of playing in the choir loft while his mother practiced for the following Sunday. His two aunts also were church organists, and his grandfather was an

opera and cantata soloist, so perhaps music was in his DNA.

The next step toward a lifetime of music was when Bob began taking piano lessons at age 5 — “It was required” in his family, he said. Then, at age 10, he began trumpet, using an instrument owned by his elementary school. When he entered junior high school, however, there was no trumpet available, so the band teacher switched him to a French horn, correctly known simply as a horn — his instrument of choice ever since.

Fortunately for Bob, music was an important part of the public school curriculum in Norristown. His first-grade teacher played a pump organ in her classroom and led her students in singing daily. By fifth grade, Bob and his classmates had something called music dictation, where four students at a time were called up to the blackboard. The teacher played a musical phrase or rhythm on a record, and the students were expected to accurately place the notes on the musical staff before them.

“I had all the musical experience I needed by sixth grade,” Bob said. “It set me up. I learned all the basics of music, then junior high school expanded what I already knew, and I first experienced serious listening. That provided me with a big repertoire of known classical works that I've expanded on ever since.”

When Bob was in high school, his band teacher was called away for a family emergency, and he asked Bob to conduct the band for the halftime



CHRISTINA GRAY / BELLA LUNA STUDIOS

Pleasanton Community Concert Band conductor Bob Williams, shown here leading the performance at last year's Fourth of July event, is set for his final concert at the front this weekend at the Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade.

show at a football game — his first time as a conductor.

“It was a defining moment: I was hooked!” he said.

In high school, Bob was part of the marching and concert bands, as well as the orchestra. He also participated in chorus and drama, getting the lead roles in the ninth-grade opera and also in his senior class play.

As a sophomore, Bob joined the local musicians union because it was a requirement for another first: Playing in the community band.

“Many performance trips and interschool opportunities made me feel accepted,” he said.

A particularly vivid memory is when he was one of 1,000 high school musicians marching in a show in Philadelphia with all their instruments illuminated, as part of the Philadelphia Music Festival Band.

Slight detours from music were necessary for summer and part-time jobs. To earn money for college,

Williams worked every summer for a local bank. Once they provided him with a Stetson and cowboy boots to publicize the new “Hopalong Cassidy” bank accounts for children. Other temporary positions included operating and fixing knitting machines, a steam press and a boiler; custodial services; radio disc jockey; plus janitorial and landscape maintenance at a food store.

In college, he also was a music library helper and stagehand. These jobs helped him with expenses for West Chester State Teachers College (now University) for Music Education.

Bob completed his bachelor's degree in 1954, just in time to face being drafted for the Korean War, so instead he enlisted in the Army and was sent to South Carolina as a band training unit director for the 101st Airborne Division, to train military bandmen, with a new group of 30 recruits every eighth week. He also

was the drum major for the 282nd Army Band — both important steps toward his music career.

During this time, he met a soldier who previously had served as an admissions officer for the University of Rochester. That acquaintance encouraged and coached Bob to apply to the prestigious Eastman School of Music. He was accepted.

The G.I. Bill and a position as a research assistant in the music department fully paid for Bob's graduate education, training him not only as a professional horn player, but also as a teacher who knew how to assemble, play, clean and disassemble all instruments that his future students might have. In addition, Bob polished his skills as a conductor.

“I learned that conducting was the ultimate position of ‘teaching,’ and the technique was a direct result of knowing and feeling and expressing all in the motions of directing,” he said.



CHRISTINA GRAY / BELLA LUNA STUDIOS

Bob conducted the Pleasanton Community Concert Band for Fourth of July celebrations at Lions Wayside Park, the site of the band's first concert as part of the city's centennial celebration in 1975.



Bob was an original member of the band and has been its conductor of 36 of its 48 years.

Before coming to Oakland Unified School District (and moving to Pleasanton) in 1972, Bob taught music in multiple grade levels in Lancaster, Penn; Webster, N.Y; and Albuquerque, N.M., inspiring hundreds of young students along the way.

When music education was being reduced in Oakland schools in 1979, a fellow band member, Bob Butler, helped Williams jump into a second career, at the GE Vallecitos Nuclear Center as a nuclear materials study technician, a post he held for 18 years until his retirement — quite a change from his teaching career.

He didn't stop his involvement with music, however. The Pleasanton Bicentennial Band was formed in 1975, and Bob joined as a horn player. After the bicentennial, it became the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, and Bob became its second conductor.

"The concept of the community band is to demonstrate patriotism and history," Bob explained. "Many of my programs are based on an historical view of some sort of music, plus an element of patriotism. Community bands are a way of continuing America's heritage."

"It used to be that everyone who worked in town also played a musical instrument and participated in the community band. You'd have the butcher playing flute, the barber playing tuba, and so on," he noted.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band members all are volunteers who fit into their schedules 48 weekly rehearsals and 12 to 20 free concerts per year. Most of them have full-time jobs, and some are high school or college students. All share a love for music.

"Our community band attracts experienced players who want to continue the positive, rewarding experience they had in high school or college," Bob said.

The band's library — housed in Bob's home — contains the sheet



CHRISTINA GRAY / BELLA LUNA STUDIOS

Bob's son, Rob Williams (left) was proud to introduce his father when Bob was awarded the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award in 2022.

music for 2,000 musical numbers, with 75 parts per number, each sheet carefully filed away for fast retrieval. The band performs about 150 selections per year.

Bob has taken pleasure in selecting the right pieces for each audience, and, in his memorable voice, he draws upon his studies of music literature to share with the audience information about the composer and the piece that is to be performed. Each concert has been a condensed music appreciation course.

Since he was a teenager, Bob has performed in many ensembles, bands and symphonies. "I gradually realized I enjoyed leading and improving group experiences more than playing in groups," Bob said. "Being a good music reader with an acceptable voice aided many of my experiences in music. Acting experiences in plays and dramas help in conducting movements."

Locally, he joined the Livermore-Amador Symphony Orchestra in 1972, playing horn until recently. Working with former drama teacher Adele Denny, Bob conducted the annual musical shows at Amador Valley High School. He also was the first conductor for the Pleasanton Playhouse. In 1995, he played horn for the Valley Dance Theatre, then became their conductor for 22 seasons

of winter Nutcracker productions as well as their spring recitals.

Last year, Bob was recognized for his service to the community with the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award.

Bob's come a long way from Pennsylvania, sharing passion for good music with students from elementary schools through Army recruits and as a performer with many bands, symphonies and ensembles.

"My life always has been intertwined with music," he said. "Music is my heartbeat. It means I am alive and well."

One of the ways this musical legacy will continue is through the H. Robert Williams Horn Scholarship that he established in 2013 at the Eastman School of Music. That first annual scholarship became an endowed scholarship after five years, when Bob pledged \$10,000 per year that was matched by his former employer, GE.

"I had freedom from the worries



COURTESY BOB WILLIAMS

Bob Williams (left) shown in Western attire was as a teenager, when his summer job included promoting "Hopalong Cassidy" bank accounts for children.

of having to take out a large loan and repaying it for years to come as today's students often do," Bob said. "I wanted to help others experience that same feeling."

So far, nine student horn players have benefited from his generosity. The music continues!

Bob Williams' musical training, talent and experience will be on public display for the last time on Sunday after the parade. When the final note has been played, Bob will hand off the baton to Mark Aubel, who will become the band's fourth conductor.

"In Pleasanton I found a place where I could do all I wanted musically in a congenial community: Happily. Contentedly. Comfortably," Bob concludes. ■



COURTESY BOB WILLIAMS

A 12-year-old Bob poses for a portrait.



CHRISTINA GRAY / BELLA LUNA STUDIOS

Bob Williams' final concert as band conductor

- What: A tribute to military veterans
- When: Sunday, Nov. 5, after the parade (approximately 2 p.m.)
- Where: In front of the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street in Pleasanton
- BYOC: Bring your own chairs



COURTESY BOB WILLIAMS

Due to cuts in music education, Bob abruptly switched from teaching to being a technician at the GE Vallecitos Nuclear Center for 18 years.



COURTESY BOB WILLIAMS

While in the Army, Bob trained soldiers for military bands and also was the drum major for the 282nd Army Band.

Riders in the Sky

Singing cowboys share stories of heartbreak and the Wild West

BY NICOLE GONZALES

With their leather boots, Western button-ups, traditional hats and large belt buckles, the traveling band Riders in the Sky have shaped a recognizable brand for their country and comedy singing-cowboy group.

After over four decades since their formation, the band continues to tour, write and record music for their loyal fanbase. Riders in the Sky will make a returning appearance at the Bankhead Theater this Sunday to share their twangy and comedic version of traditional Western music.

Members of the band initially came together in 1977 when they had played together, seemingly by chance, in a small Nashville venue. Douglas B. Green, or better known as his stage name Ranger Doug, spoke to the Weekly about the band's career.

"It was 46 years ago," Green recalled. "We had all moved to Nashville to get into the music business as young people and we gravitated toward each other in the acoustic music community, so we got to know each other pretty well."

It was in this tight-knit Nashville music community that Green met his future bandmates Fred LaBour and Woody Paul. The lineup changed, however, when they met Joey Miskulin, whom Green called the "CowPolka King".

"It was the three of us for 10 years, and then we became acquainted with Joey. We added him to the group in 1988, and the rest is history," Green said.

Once their foursome lineup was complete, the group began to tour and record rigorously. Together, Riders in the Sky went on to join the Grand Ole Opry in 1982, win two Grammy Awards and play at the Hollywood Bowl.

"Playing the Hollywood Bowl twice was a big one. That's one of the greatest places we've ever played. It's still sort of a miracle to me, after all these years that this really happened, but it did," Green said.

The feelings, authenticity and sounds of traditional Western

music is what drew the foursome to the genre, according to Green.

"It's like poetry. This type of music just has something about the beat of it, you know. The feeling is universal, either having your heart broken or laying out under the summer sky," Green said. "It's a combination of interesting melodies, beautiful harmonies and lyrics."

A major part of the band's brand is delivering their Western tunes with a side of comedic relief.

'American music is like a big musical pie. There's plenty of slices and we don't want to lose any. This is us preserving that style of music, while we're also entertaining.'

Douglas B. Green,
Musician

"I love it when we can make the audience laugh, comedy is such a big part of our show. It makes the time go by so quickly," Green said. "We all thought we were pretty funny, and we always wanted to interact with the audience so we would come up with silly stuff. It just developed pretty organically into the band."

Green said the band had two main goals when they first set out on, to preserve this traditional Western music style, and to entertain people.

"American music is like a big musical pie. There's plenty of slices and we don't want to lose any. This is us preserving that style of music, while we're also entertaining," Green said. "Western is a fantastic, beautiful and uniquely American style. It's a blend of so many things. There's blues influence, there's pop influences and swing influences, even mariachi influences. It's just a really rich type of music."

"We want people to be entertained by the stories, sounds and



COURTESY RIDERS IN THE SKY

Riders in the Sky, known by their stage names Joey, Woody Paul, Too Slim and Ranger Doug, return to the Bankhead Theater in Livermore this weekend.

environment that Riders in the Sky shows create. You'll laugh, you'll reminisce and maybe even shed a tear or two during a very heartfelt ballad," he added.

One of their favorite parts of playing live shows is audience interaction.

"We all love seeing new places and meeting new people. We always go out and meet with the audience after the show," Green said. "I love the fact that the age of our fans is so great. We have people our age, the seniors, we have people in the middle and the occasional Gen Z."

In July, the band released their 42nd album, "Throw a Saddle on a Star". Green says the band still hopes to write and record more as the years go on.

To purchase tickets to the show Sunday (Nov. 5) at 3 p.m. in the Bankhead in downtown Livermore, visit livermorearts.org. ■



Pleasanton Art League's best on display in Harrington Gallery

Also: Bay Area artist De Luca depicts 'A Journey Through Grief' in Firehouse lobby

By JEREMY WALSH

Memorable creations by local artists will fill the Harrington Gallery this autumn as the Pleasanton Art League Fall Members' Show returns to the Firehouse Arts Center.

The annual PAL exhibition formally debuts this Saturday (Nov. 4), including an opening reception and awards ceremony from 1-3 p.m., and continues in the downtown Pleasanton gallery through Dec. 16.

"Featuring approximately 85 works of all mediums, this yearly group exhibition will showcase the diverse and talented work of PAL's members," league officials said. "Awards will be judged by watercolor artist, Jeannie Vodden. She is known for her floral works, still-life paintings, portraits and graphite drawings."

The awards, to be handed out by Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, are set to include one Best of Show, two Merit Awards and four Honorable Mentions, according to PAL.

Throughout the exhibit's run, PAL members will also present art demonstrations on select Saturdays in which the local artists will show and explain their creative process.



COURTESY PAL

"Saint-Antonin-Noble-Val-France", oil on canvas, by Dene Johnson is part of the PAL Fall Members' Show at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The demonstration schedule will feature Natalie Soboleva (Nov. 18, oil painting of sunflowers using palette knife), Lorraine Wells (Nov. 18, landscape painting in watercolors), Wei-Ting Chuang (Dec. 9, East Asian brush painting of a winter scene),

Susan Helmer (Dec. 9, painting on stretched silk with liquid French dyes), Nancy Roberts (Dec. 16, recreating plein air landscape experience using bold and colorful acrylic painting techniques) and Tuan Karsevar (Dec. 16, dynamic portrait painting).



COURTESY PAL

"Point of View" by acrylic artist Leslie Hoffmeyer.

For more information on the exhibit or demos, visit www.pal-art.com or www.firehousearts.org.

Meanwhile, the lobby space in the Firehouse is hosting a separate, solo exhibition of works by Bay Area painter Germaine De Luca entitled

"A Journey Through Grief: Finding Serenity Between Light and Shadow".

"Primarily a still-life artist, De Luca's exhibition showcases the self-taught artist's prowess of the oil painting medium. The artist captures the subdued and somber atmosphere of a moment frozen in time — reminiscent of the works of Old European Masters," Firehouse officials said.

A New Jersey native who moved to California for graduate school, De Luca is a trained and licensed mental health therapist and retired supervisor after 28 years with the Alameda County Child Protective Services. She discovered art as an outlet for stress and creativity 13 years ago and works primarily in the alla prima style (painting in one sitting), Firehouse reps said.

De Luca, whose exhibit opened Oct. 25 and runs until Dec. 16, will be on hand for a meet-and-greet at the Firehouse from 1-3 p.m. this Saturday at the same time as the PAL opening reception. ■

Día de Los Muertos event at Pleasanton Library

Ofrendas on display (plus food, music and activities) in recognition of Mexican holiday

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The city of Pleasanton's Library and Recreation Department is inviting the community to a Día de Los Muertos celebration this weekend at the public library on Old Bernal Avenue.

Día de Los Muertos is a traditional Mexican holiday where people build altars and make offerings, also known as ofrendas, for their deceased ancestors and loved ones to enjoy from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2.

The Día de Los Muertos Celebration will be the second event in the city's new Cultural Celebration Series, which was kicked off with the Oct. 7 Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the Alviso Adobe Community Park, which was in observance of National Hispanic Heritage Month.

"These celebrations serve as an opportunity for the community to come together, learn and enjoy unforgettable experiences," said Nick Binzoni, community and public relations coordinator for the Library and Recreation Department. "Individuals of all ages and backgrounds are invited to celebrate our cultural communities through arts, music and learning."

The origin of Día de Los Muertos comes from a mix of meso-American

ritual, European religion and Spanish culture but the basic principle is that on Oct. 31, the gates of heaven open up so that those who passed away can spend a day with their families who are alive on earth.

It is said that the spirits of children who died come back on Nov. 1 while the adults come back on Nov. 2. Families lay out items such as toys, food and anything else that those ancestors specifically enjoyed while they were alive so that they can find their way back home.

In Mexico, neighbors gather in local cemeteries to share food, music and fun with the community. In Pleasanton this weekend, residents will be able to celebrate both the living and the dead at the library downtown.

"The city seeks to honor these traditions through the exhibition of ofrendas; and in seeking the community's participation, it hopes to foster greater understanding and appreciation for the holiday," Binzoni said.

The event on Saturday (Nov. 4) will take place from 1-3 p.m. and will feature live entertainment from the Pleasanton Unified School District Mariachi Estrella del Pueblo

Baile Folklórico as well as family-friendly activities, crafts and light refreshments.

Before the event kicks off with a welcome and storytime at 1 p.m., residents will also be able to view ofrendas on display for a special exhibit created by members of the community. The ofrendas, which were accepted on a first-come, first-served basis due last week, will be on display at the library during the first weekend of November.

Other upcoming events this year that are part of the Cultural Celebration Series include a Diwali Celebration — also known as the Festival of Lights — that will take place on Sunday (Nov. 5) and a celebration for Native American Heritage Month at the Alviso Adobe Community Park on Nov. 18.

Next year, the Library and Recreation Department will also be planning events to celebrate Lunar New Year, Black History Month, Asian American and Pacific Islanders Heritage Month, and Juneteenth.

"Each observance will feature family activities and performances that honor the beauty of our city's cultural diversity," Binzoni said. ■

Making stylish moves

Author Schuyler speaking to writers club

By JEREMY WALSH

The Tri-Valley Writers Chapter of the California Writers Club is welcoming Bay Area-based author and educator Nina Schuyler to present to its members at the club's November meeting.

Schuyler, who is a noted novelist and short story writer as well as a teacher of creative writing for University of San Francisco and Stanford Continuing Studies, will speak to the group on Nov. 18 with a presentation titled "Making Metaphors and Other Stylish Moves".

"To create metaphors, we need to find connections and similarities between seemingly disparate things. Schuyler will show us how to create sentences containing fresh and compelling metaphors," club officials said.

"Participants will develop an understanding of the power of metaphor, gain strategies to create metaphors, learn how to write original metaphors, learn how to write sentences that can easily contain metaphors and learn three techniques for writing sentences that invoke more style techniques," club reps added.

The presentation will begin at 2 p.m. in Room 2470 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. The session is open to non-members as well as club members, with paid reservations due by Nov. 16. For ticket prices and more information, go to www.trivalleywriters.org. ■



Nina Schuyler

POLICE BULLETIN

Judge grants injunction to halt Livermore company's vape sales

With a lawsuit underway against Livermore-based Apollo E-cigs, Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price's office recently announced that the court granted a preliminary injunction extending a temporary restraining order that bars the company from selling flavored tobacco products or synthetic cannabis products locally and online.

The lawsuit filed by Price's office in September alleges that the business sold banned flavored tobacco products — predominantly vapes and vape juice — to people under the age of 21.

"We are pleased that the Superior Court recognized the gravity of this situation, in particular the danger that Apollo E-Cigs' unlawful actions pose to the children of Alameda County and the State of California," Price said in a statement.

"The Court has now confirmed the merit of our lawsuit, shutting down a major bad actor that we believe may have been manufacturing and selling as many as tens of thousands of banned flavored vapes each month," she added.

According to court documents obtained by the Weekly, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Julia Spain rejected the company's argument that the ban solely applies to "tobacco retailers" conducting in-person sales at retail locations based on the legal definition of the term.

In her order, Spain noted that nothing in the legal definitions requires the retailer and the consumer to be dealing with each other face-to-face at the retailer's physical retail premise for the law to be applicable.

"The statutory definition of 'tobacco retailer' merely means that the retailer is dealing 'in any manner

or by any means whatever' with an 'ultimate consumer' who will use the product, as opposed to a wholesaler who will resell the product to someone else," the judge wrote.

"In other words, it is clear that the definition of 'tobacco retailer' is clearly limited to retail sales to retail customers, and does not include wholesale sales. But the definition of 'tobacco retailer' is not limited to sales at Defendants' physical retail locations," she added.

At the time of publication, Apollo E-cigs had not responded to a request for comment.

The initial lawsuit and subsequent temporary restraining order came after a multi-agency investigation that included the Livermore Police Department, California's Department of Public Health and California's Department of Tax and Fee Administration.

The authorities were alerted by the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District when school administrators began to notice that products purchased from Apollo were showing up on multiple school campuses.

"This is a game of whack-a-mole, and we have to shut down these companies if they keep breaking our laws," LVJUSD Trustee Kristie Wang said in a statement.

Wang is also a co-founder of Flavors Addict Kids-Livermore, which advocated for the 2019 passage of the city's restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes.

"We have passed laws to keep these addictive products out of our communities, but bad actor companies continue to sell to our youth. As a mom and school board member, I have seen first-hand the harms caused by flavored tobacco products and electronic vape devices," Wang said.

As a result of the preliminary injunction, Apollo's operations are to remain suspended for the duration of

the litigation. According to the court website, the trial date is set for Aug. 2, 2024.

—Cierra Bailey

In other news

- A Pleasanton-based construction company and the union representing a majority of its employees are each facing charges brought by a former, non-union employee alleging that she had membership dues deducted from her paycheck against her will and was effectively terminated from her position for refusing to join the union.

Alexandra Le filed the charges with the National Labor Relations Board on Oct. 4 against Construction Training Services and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local No. 3, with Virginia-based attorney Byron Andrus of the National Right to Work Foundation providing legal counsel.

"It's outrageous that IUOE union officials believe they can get me fired simply because I don't agree with their organization and don't want to support or affiliate with them," Le said in a statement released later in the month through the foundation. "IUOE union officials have been far more concerned with consolidating power in the workplace and collecting dues than caring about me and my coworkers, and I hope the NLRB will hold them responsible for their illegal actions."

Le alleges that the CTS unlawfully deducted union dues from her paychecks despite her refusal to be represented by the local union, and that the IUOE local representing her colleagues illegally accepted the funds. She also said that she was removed from the schedule at CTS following her refusal of union representation, and that the company said it was a condition of her continued employment.

NLRB press secretary Kayla Blado confirmed that the charges were

filed with the department, and said that the board's Oakland office was in the process of investigating the allegations.

Representatives from CTS and the IUOE local representing Le's now-former coworkers did not respond to requests for comment as of Wednesday morning.

—Jeanita Lyman

- A former guard at the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin is alleging that internal affairs for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office refused to investigate when he reported a colleague for sexually abusing two minors, according to a new lawsuit against the Sheriff's Office.

Chris McMann joined the Sheriff's Office as a recruit in 2017. McMann was working in the jail in November 2020, when he found out two of his daughters had allegedly been "molested by their uncle, Sgt. Kevin Estep," the lawsuit alleges.

McMann's attorney, Denise Eaton-May, did not respond to a request for an interview, but the complaint says McMann obtained inappropriate text messages from Estep, including one in which the sergeant told a minor to "let me see your a**."

McMann then reported the suspected crime to the Brentwood Police Department, where investigators allegedly documented a "pre-text" call in which Estep made incriminating statements.

McMann's lawsuit alleges that the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office declined to prosecute Estep because of the "potential impact this type of trial would have on the minors," but District Attorney's Office spokesman Ted Asregadoo wrote in an email last week that prosecutors didn't move forward in 2021 because, "there was insufficient evidence to prove beyond reasonable doubt the charge against Kevin Estep."

McMann also allegedly reported Estep to internal affairs, hoping their investigation might review the text messages and the police report from Brentwood. Instead, the lawsuit says the Sheriff's Office withdrew the complaint on his behalf — without his consent — and refused to take any further action on the allegations against Estep.

The plaintiff argues they were "neglecting and summarily dismissing his grievance."

After that, McMann alleges he faced multiple forms of retaliation. At one point, he was called in for a meeting with Division Cmdr. Jack Ray Tucker and presented with a false report fabricated by Lt. Andrew John Leca accusing McMann of unnecessary use of force, according to the civil complaint.

McMann was reportedly forced to work alone in a part of the jail populated by suspected sex offenders, despite a policy requiring a partner for such assignments. McMann also lost overtime hours, which impacted him financially,

and was eventually reassigned to a unit in the coroner's bureau, according to the plaintiff.

"After contemplating leaving the department due to the disparate treatment he was receiving, Mr. McMann was told that Undersheriff (Richard) Lucia indicated that he was glad Mr. McMann was leaving the department because his 'career is shot,' implying that his career within the agency was over because of his complaint of sexual misconduct that he filed against Sgt. Estep," the lawsuit alleges.

Public records from Transparent California — a website that tracks public employee salary data — indicate Estep, Leca and McMann all left the Sheriff's Office at some point in 2021. These records also show that in 2021 and 2022, Estep held a part-time job with the Administration of Justice program for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

McMann is suing the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for retaliating against him in violation of state labor law as well as failure to perform a mandatory duty by investigating his allegations against Estep. He's asking for financial damages, attorney fees and court costs.

Alameda County sheriff's spokesperson Lt. Tya Modeste declined to comment on the case, saying she is unable to discuss pending litigation with the media. Alameda County Counsel Donna Ziegler did not respond to a request for comment.

—Dave Brooksher, BCN

- The suspect in a bank robbery in Danville on Tuesday was still at large as of mid-afternoon after fleeing on foot from the scene across the street from Blackhawk Plaza, according to authorities.

Officers with the Danville Police Department responded to the scene at the Wells Fargo branch at 3402 Camino Tassajara at 12:29 p.m. Tuesday, with DPD making an announcement about two hours later on social media about the incident and the pending search for the suspect.

The culprit reportedly entered the bank dressed in all black with a black face mask and conducted the robbery via a note that he handed to Wells Fargo staff, with no weapons witnessed. He was described by police as "a light-complected Black male, estimated to be in his early 20s, standing at approximately 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighing around 150 pounds" on social media later that afternoon, according to police.

Deputies from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office joined DPD officers at the scene shortly after they arrived, with the two agencies now investigating the incident in tandem as the CCCSO crime lab searched the scene for potential evidence.

Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact DPD Sgt. Veronique Balea at 925-314-3703 or vbalea@danville.ca.gov. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 29

Auto theft

- 6:55 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road
- 9:15 a.m. on the 5500 block of Johnson Drive
- 11:31 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

Oct. 27

Domestic battery

- 9:16 a.m. on Ensenada Drive

Oct. 26

Theft

- 8:02 a.m. on the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

Oct. 25

Theft

- 9:20 a.m., 000 block of Foothill Place; auto theft
- 1:58 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting
- 3:16 p.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

- 10:16 a.m. on the 3600 block of Andrews Drive

Graffiti offense

- 3:19 p.m. on the 4400 block of Railroad Avenue

Oct. 24

DUI

- 2:49 a.m. at Stanley Boulevard and Reflections Drive

Theft from auto

- 6:41 a.m. on the 5300 block of Owens Court

Vandalism

- 9:11 a.m. on the 5300 block of Northway Road
- 2:24 p.m. on the 1800 block of Crestline Road
- 6:45 p.m. on the 1500 block of East Gate Way

Burglary

- 8:11 p.m. on the 900 block of Roselma Place

Oct. 23

Missing persons report

- 10:30 a.m. on Owens Drive

Fraud

- 10:33 a.m. on the 500 block of Neal Street

Theft

- 11:40 a.m., 4800 block of Willow Road; auto theft
- 2:13 p.m. on the 600 block of Romeo Court
- 4:04 p.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard
- 9:38 p.m. on the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Warrant arrest

- 12:44 p.m. at First and Nevada streets

Domestic battery

- 4:51 p.m. on Owens Drive
- 6:57 p.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road

Assault/battery

- 11:01 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Oct. 22

Warrant arrest

- 10:41 a.m. at Rosewood and Owens drives

Theft

- 1:09 p.m. on the 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road



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By DENNIS MILLER

Sophomore Swyers spurs comeback win

Also: All-Pleasanton showdown in volleyball semis;
Dons keep tennis postseason hopes alive

In an absolute battle, the Amador Valley girls' water polo team pulled out a come-from-behind win against rival Foothill last week.

On Senior Night for Foothill, the Falcons came out and took a 4-2 halftime lead behind goals from Camryn Hobizal (2), Lindsey Locatelli and Emmy Tsao.

Maya Amiel and Olivia Ritter scored the first-half goals for the Dons.

In the second half, it was all about Amador super sophomore Susan Swyers as she racked up four goals, three assists, eight steals and drew two ejections to lead the Dons' turnaround in securing the 9-5 victory.

Deepika Suresh was strong in the goal, allowing only one Foothill goal in the second half. Another sophomore, Suresh had eight saves and three steals.

Valentina Avalos had the lone second-half goal for the Falcons.

Kate Hopkins also had a goal and three assists for the Dons.

"We've had some great success the last two seasons with deep runs in the playoffs and a wealth of talent," Amador coach Tim Reilly said. "I knew graduating seven seniors the last two seasons would bring new challenges. Those are big shoes to fill with a team that has eight new varsity players. Rebuilding years in high school can be tough, but we battled through injuries and the inexperience that comes from a young team. I'm so proud of these girls. They came so far in 12 weeks."

It was also a game of mixed emotions for Reilly.

"I've coached most of the Foothill girls on our club team, so it was great to see them out there playing hard too," Reilly said. "There's a side of me that wants to see them do well, but in the end, I've got the purple shirt on."

Foothill volleyball

After going undefeated in East Bay Athletic League play, followed by a pair of wins to take the EBAL playoffs, the Falcons were given the No. 1 seed in the North Coast Section Division I playoffs.

After a first-round bye, Foothill opened play last Saturday.

The Falcons faced Vintage of Napa in the first round after the Crushers advanced with a 3-2 thriller over Castro Valley.

It didn't take long to figure out how this match would turn out,



Susan Swyers

as the Falcons ran off the first 16 points in the first set on the way to a 25-6, 25-9, 25-17 win.

Vintage served to open the match and after Foothill got the point, the Falcons ran off 15 more points under the serves of freshman Kait Vogel. She finished the night with 23 service points, six of which were aces.

Other highlights came from senior Maisha Sharma (20 service

points, 9 aces), senior Katie Salonga (20 assists, 2 aces) and senior Paige Bennett (12 kills).

The win moved the Falcons into the semifinals where they were set to face Amador Valley on Wednesday night at Foothill, with results pending as of press time.

It was set to be the fourth time this year the two teams met. Amador gave the Falcons their only loss, beating them 2-0 in an early-season tournament. Since then, Foothill beat Amador 3-2 and 3-0 during the EBAL regular season.

Amador tennis

The Dons kept their postseason chances alive with a nice series of wins.

In beating Livermore 8-1, Amador's wins included Dani Kaur and Lanie Win, and the doubles teams of Bella Cheng/Alayna West and

Priscilla Lam/Rhea Anand.

In a 7-1 win over California, wins came from Montana Parkinson-Lubold, Neha Reddy, Aashvi Geddam, Chloe Fan and the doubles teams of Aditi Deshpande/West, Cheng/Avital Belau and Ella

Kuipers/Anand.

Finally, the Dons closed the season with a 6-3 win over Carondelet.

Wins came from Kaur, Parkinson-Lubold, Neha Reddy, Geddam, Deshpande/West and Cheng/Kuipers. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

Civic Arts Commission Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Remillard Conference Room Operations Service Center— 3333 Busch Road

- Review Fiscal Year 2022/23 Civic Arts Community Grant Final Performance Reports
- Review and Approve Funding Criteria for Fiscal Year 2024/25 Community Grant Program – Civic Arts Category
- Review and Approve Pausing the Joint Library and Civic Arts Teen Poet Laureate Selection Subcommittee for 2024
- Discuss Public Art Selection Subcommittee Commission Members for 2024
- Review and Approve Civic Arts Commission Meeting Schedule for 2024
- Receive Civic Arts Project Status Report
- Select Commission Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2024

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Remillard Conference Room Operations Service Center— 3333 Busch Road., via video/teleconference and will be broadcast live on Channel 29 and at <https://www.tri-valleytv.org> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheCityofPleasanton>.

- Public Hearing – Adopt a resolution levying the Downtown Pleasanton Business Improvement District Assessment for 2024
- Continued from September 19, 2023 – Hold a public hearing on proposed water and sewer rate increases and adopt resolutions to amend the master fee schedule for water and sewer rates effective January 1, 2024
- Introduce an ordinance to add a new Chapter 9.06 Leaf Blower Restrictions to the Municipal Code to ban gasoline-powered leaf blowers effective June 1, 2024, and waive first reading

Youth Commission Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

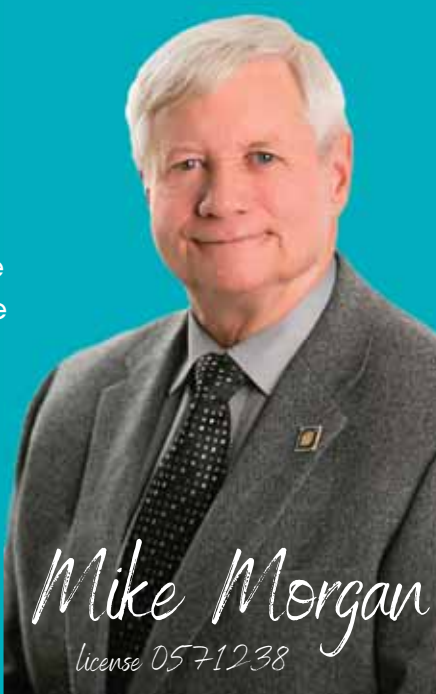
The meeting will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center – 5353 Sunol Blvd.

- Review Fiscal Year 2022/23 Community Grant Final Performance Reports
- Approve Funding Criteria for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Community Grant Program – Youth Category
- Consider Establishing an Ad hoc Committee for a New Youth Grant Program and Select Commission Representatives

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PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Meet Mila

Mila is a 3-year-old Belgian Malinois-Border Collie mix who is reserved when you first meet, but she's ready to blossom. Some things (like jumping into the car) are new and scary. But if you crouch down and offer reassurance, patience and a handful of snacks, she can be very brave! Then she is ready for adventure, as you can see from this field trip photo. She's a "leaner" and will press her whole body against you for pets. Meet her at East Bay SPCA's Dublin Adoption Center; visit eastbayspca.org.

Entertainment

BANKHEAD PRESENTS NAPOLEON DYNAMITE LIVE Watch Napoleon Dynamite on the big screen then stick around after the screening for a Q&A session with Jon Heder, Jon Gries and Efen Ramirez and get an exclusive behind-the-scenes look into the making of the film. 8 p.m., Nov. 3. Tickets \$100. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR Las Positas College Theater Arts presents its upcoming fall production, *The Government Inspector*, a comedy adapted by Jeffery Hatcher from the original by Nikolai Gogol. Now through Nov. 5. Tickets \$10-\$20. Visit laspositascollege.edu/theater/events.php.

HULA FESTIVAL & COMPETITION

Includes an assortment of cultural dance, local music, ethnic food and arts & craft vendors from around the world. Nov 3-5 Tickets \$16-\$26. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

HARMONY & HEALING BENEFIT CONCERT WITH BOHEMIAN QUEEN

Join for an unforgettable night of music and celebration as the Bankhead presents the 3rd Annual Harmony & Healing Benefit Concert & Fundraiser. Experience Bohemian Queen, the 1 ranked Queen tribute band. 6:30 p.m., Nov. 4. \$38.25-\$99. Visit livermorearts.org.

HSMC CABARET/COMEDY TONIGHT

High School Music Collaborative present a cabaret full of the funniest songs in musical theater history. Be a part of the laughs that will be sure to make your belly sore.

7:30 p.m., Nov. 4. Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org.

HANSAMO-TRADITIONAL KOREAN MUSIC & DANCE

Enjoy a traditional Korean music and dance performance by Hansamo, a non-profit student organization created to promote Korean culture in the Bay Area. The program features traditional Korean drumming and dance that will delight all ages. 2 p.m., Nov. 5. Civic Center Library Plaza, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

ANDY KAHRS: ALWAYS ON MY MIND

An intimate evening with singer/songwriter Andy Kahrs with guest appearance by Nick Crossen. Featuring a collection of country, blues and R&B classics through the years. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 9. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

AN EVENING WITH BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL

Don't miss the opportunity to witness the magic of one of the most celebrated performers of our time, Tony Award-winning performer Brian Stokes Mitchell, in a truly illustrious live performance. 8 p.m., Nov. 10. Tickets \$80-\$110. Visit livermorearts.org.

CROSS THAT RIVER: THE MUSICAL

Get transported back in time to the Wild West with *Cross That River*, the captivating story of a runaway slave turned black cowboy. Follow the adventures of Blue, our protagonist, as he navigates through a world of danger and uncertainty to pursue his dreams of freedom and success. 8 p.m., Nov. 11. Tickets \$50-\$80. Visit livermorearts.org.

SELECTED SHORTS: LET US TELL YOU A STORY

Selected Shorts presents an evening of stories about the ways lives intersect in mysterious, poignant, and hilarious ways. Tony Hale, Jane Kaczmarek and Mara Wilson perform classic and contemporary tales of entanglements. 3 p.m., Nov. 12. Tickets \$35-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

BANKHEAD PRESENTS COCO IN CONCERT

Join for a screening of Disney Pixar's *Coco* with the musical score performed by the 20-member Orquesta Folclorico Nacional de Mexico. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15. Tickets \$60-\$90. Visit livermorearts.org.

RISING VOICES: LIZZIE NO, BUFFALO NICHOLS AND SUNNY WAR

This is a must-see show of the season, don't delay; get your seats now and immerse yourself in an evening of powerful, soulful performances. 8 p.m., Nov. 17. Tickets \$45-\$75. Visit livermorearts.org.

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS STEPHEN WAARTS, VIOLIN

With an unusually broad and voracious appetite for repertoire, he has already performed more than 30 standard violin concertos as well as rarely performed works. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 18. Tickets \$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

EMILY ZISMAN AT THE FIREHOUSE

Through songwriting, Emily seeks to foster healing and sincere connection by writing instinctually.

She writes songs that excavate shame and shine a light on the goodness and humor buried under each painful moment. 8 p.m., Nov. 18. Tickets \$10-\$20. Visit firehousearts.org.

ABBAFAB AbbaFab is a stunning tribute to the music of ABBA. This production is a tribute to some of the greatest music produced in the 70s and 80s including monster hits such as *Waterloo*, *Fernando*, *Honey Honey*, *Dancing Queen* and countless others. 3 p.m., Nov. 19. Tickets \$30-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEE GEES GOLD John Acosta as Barry Gibb has performed in *Bee Gees Tributes* all over the world. John Acosta's *Bee Gees Gold* tribute is the ultimate salute, and experience of seeing the Bee Gees in their prime. 7:30 p.m., Nov. 24. Tickets \$59-\$89. Visit livermorearts.org.

BIG BAD VODOO DADDY HOLIDAY SHOW

Swing into the holiday season with *Big Bad Voodoo Daddy*. With classic holiday tunes and original hits, their *Holiday Show* is the perfect way to get into the festive spirit with family and friends. 8 p.m., Nov. 25. Tickets \$70-\$100. Visit livermorearts.org.

HOLIDAY YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL

The High School Music Collaborative shares the stage with the *Creatures of Impulse* and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Jr.* cast members to ring in the Holiday Season with live, local, and youthful musical expression. 2 p.m., Nov. 25. Tickets \$10. Visit firehousearts.org.

AN AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

Pleasanton Community Concert Band performs music from *Star Wars*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Superman*, *Rocky*, *Harry Potter* and many more. 2-3:30 p.m., Nov. 26. Free. Firehouse Arts Center.

PACIFIC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: GLORIOUS

Begin the holiday season anew and experience the sheer beauty of George Frideric Handel's beloved *Messiah*. Surround yourself with the harmonious voices of the Pacific Chamber Orchestra and Chorus alongside Handel's sublime melodies and uplifting messages. 3 p.m., Nov. 26. Tickets \$20-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

Exhibits

PAL FALL MEMBERS' SHOW The Pleasanton Art League's 16th annual Fall Members' Show is Nov. 4-Dec.16. The art exhibit will hang in the Harrington Gallery inside the Firehouse Arts Center. 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

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 Dec. 31. 603 Main St. Visit museumonmain.org.

LANDSCAPES FROM WILLIAM KEITH TO TODAY 150 Years of A Beautiful California: Landscapes From

Pleasanton Weekly

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Chief of Product Development & Mgmt, CloudCard Inc. Job Site: Pleasanton CA. Strategic planning/managing of product suite; Identify potential strategic customers & represent company in engagement & advocacy of long-term customer relationships. To apply email hr.us@cloudcardinc.com

Kunai, Inc. in San Ramon, CA is seek'g Sr. Software Engineers to build sftwr that complies w/coding standards & techn'l dsgn. No trvl. WFH benefit. Salary: \$215,197/yr. Send resumes to: Kunai, Inc., Attn: HR, 2603 Camino Ramon, Ste. 200, San Ramon, CA 94583

Safeway Inc. hiring Senior Artificial Intelligence (AI) Engineer in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$147,368-196,500/yr. Email resume TA.Applications@albertsons.com. Attn: A. Lee. Ref # 0919AN

Safeway Inc. hiring Senior Software Engineer, Digital Customer Experience in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$215,197-215,197/yr. Email resume TA.Applications@albertsons.com. Attn: M. Ferreira. Ref # 0919PKS

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William Keith to Today, this art exhibit showcases the beauty of California's landscapes over the past 150 years, featuring works from William Keith to contemporary artists. Through Jan. 7. The UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater.

Celebrations

VETERANS DAY PARADE The 26th annual Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade & Band Concert. This year's theme: Veterans of the Tri-Valley. This parade is one way we can all say thank you to the men and women who have faithfully served our country. 1 p.m., Nov. 5. 301 Main St.

DIWALI CELEBRATION Celebrate the Festival of Lights at the Diwali Celebration at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Enjoy storytime, a live musical performance from Vaishnavi Misra Music and Dance and fun family activities for the whole family, including mandalas, lanterns and light refreshments. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 5.

DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS The celebration is an ancient Hindu festival that marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 5. Free. Bankhead Plaza.

GOODGUYS FUEL CURVE AUTUMN GET-TOGETHER Featuring over 2,500 of northern California's slickest American made and powered show cars and trucks of all years on display. Shop the huge swap meet, Cars 4 Sale Corral and vendor midway, enjoy live music and so much more. 8 a.m.- 4 p.m., Nov. 11-12. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

EARLIER THAN THE BIRD The pajama shopping tradition is back. Boutique shops open at 7:00am with steals, deals, and giveaways. Participants are encouraged to grab a coffee or breakfast from downtown eateries. Wear pajamas (sweatpants and leggings do not count) and get the official give giveaway at the Livermore Downtown Inc. booth at

Livermorium Plaza. 7-10 a.m., Nov. 18.

Talks

AUTHOR JOANNA HO From New York Times bestselling author of Eyes That Kiss in the Corners, Joanna Ho, and critically acclaimed illustrator, Catia Chien comes a moving, powerful picture book about the life and work of activist and artist, Ai Weiwei. 5 p.m., Nov. 5. Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

JOIN AUTHOR ALY BROWN Join as award winning journalist Aly Brown dives into the wonders of Alvin the Submersible's world and see what lies in the last unexplored place on earth. 7 p.m., Nov. 7. Town Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB The November LAVGC talk will be on Garden Design with Drought Tolerant Plants by Sarah V. Lee of Magnifica Designs. She helps busy homeowners beautify forgotten yards and lawns into sustainable low-water succulent gardens and landscape. 6-8p.m., Nov. 9. Amador Recreation Center, 4443 Black Ave, Pleasanton. Visit lavgc.org.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY In this zoom presentation Mary Kircher Roddy presents Flying Under the Radar-Discovering Charles Olin's Alias. Charles Olin disappeared from his Nebraska roots about 1908. This fascinating presentation highlights how persistence can win out even when faced with brick walls at almost every turn. 7-8:30 p.m., Nov. 13. Visit l-ags.org.

CRUISING DOWN MEMORY LANE: STORIES OF PLEASANTON IN THE 1950s Pleasanton's Museum on Main will host an informative panel discussion focused on stories from the book Cruising Down Memory Lane: Stories of Pleasanton in the 1950s. 5-7 p.m., Nov. 15. Reserve at 925-462-2766.

TAKE US ALONG



Lovin' the Louvre: Longtime Pleasanton resident Susan Wacek visited France with her daughter earlier this year, enjoying many of the sights around the country including this stop at the Louvre Museum in Paris. 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.

Public Notices

QUEER BLACK ANGELS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601252

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Queer Black Angels, located at 1938 Stuart St. Berkeley, CA 94703, Alameda County. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ROBBIE JOSEPH
1938 Stuart St.
Berkeley, CA 94703
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/15/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 05 2023. (PLW Oct 27, Nov 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

DURASNARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601182

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Durasnare, located at 1807 Santa Rita Road, Suite H128, Pleasanton CA 94566, Alameda. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
Troce LLC
1807 Santa Rita Road, Suite H128
Pleasanton, CA 94566
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/19/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 03 2023. (PLW Oct 13, 20, 27 and Nov 3, 2023)

DIABLO FABRICATORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600442

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Diablo Fabricators, located at 7055 Commerce Circle Ste C 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):
Kitchen Experts of Pleasanton, LLC
7055 Commerce Cir Ste. C
Pleasanton, CA 94588
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/01/2023
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 30 2023. (PLW Oct 13, 20, 27 and Nov 3, 2023)

DENICA'S REAL FOOD KITCHEN
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 600733

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DENICA'S REAL FOOD KITCHEN, located at 4503 ROSEWOOD DRIVE PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA COUNTY. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DENICA'S INC.
6058 DOUGHERTY ROAD
DUBLIN, CA 94568
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 13 2023. (PLW Oct 13, 20, 27 and Nov 3, 2023)

BLACK OWNED GAMES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601491

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Black Owned Games, located at 2577 Arlotta Pl, Pleasanton CA 94588, Alameda. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LOJO GAMES LLC
2577 Arlotta Pl, Pleasanton CA 94588
California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on

10/01/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on October 19 2023. (PLW Nov 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2023)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 23CV048066
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Cheryl Lynn Thomason filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
CHERYL LYNN THOMASON to CHERYL LYNN MCMULLEN

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/05/2023, 9:30 a.m., Dept 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 10/20/2023
Charles A. Smiley
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Nov 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2023)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RAMON COLMENERO NAVARRO
Case No.: 23PR044708

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of RAMON C. NAVARRO, RAMON COLMENERO NAVARRO, RAMON NAVARRO.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Susana Navarro in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: Susana Navarro 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 27 2023 at 9:45 am in Dept. 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way.

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

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:
Shack Chew
Clark Hill PLC
505 Montgomery Street, 13th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111
415-984-8500
(PLW Oct 20, 27 and Nov 3, 2023)

SUMM
MICHAEL M LIN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 010392
LIN LAW GROUP
5288 Spring Mtn. Rd, Ste 103
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146
(702) 871 9888
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

GOLD SHIELD GROUP, LLC., a Nevada Domestic Limited Liability Company,

Plaintiff,
vs.

PLATINUM STONE INVESTMENT LLC., a Nevada Domestic Limited Liability Company; BO ZHANG, an individual; SHELIN CHEN, an individual; and DOES I through X and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.

DEPT NO.

SUMMONS

SUMMONS – (SHELIN CHEN)

NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW.

TO THE DEFENDANT. A civil Complaint has been filed by the plaintiff against you for relief set forth in the Complaint

1. If you intend to defend this lawsuit. Within 20 days after this Summons is served on you exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following:

a. File with the Clerk of this Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written response to the Complaint in accordance with the rules of the Court.

b. Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown below.

2. Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the plaintiff and this Court may enter a judgment against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the Complaint.

3. If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your response may be filed on time.

4. The State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, agencies, officers, employees, board members, commission members, and legislators, each have 45 days after service of this Summons within which to file an Answer or other responsive pleading to the Complaint.

Issued at direction of: STEVEN D GRIERSON ,
CLERK OF COURT

MICHAEL M LIN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 010392
NGOC PHAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 15453
5288 Spring Mtn. Rd., Ste 103
Las Vegas, NV 89146
(702) 871.9888
Attorney for Plaintiff

Regional Justice Center
200 Lewis Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89155

This is an action for damages based on breach of contract.

NOTE: When service is by publication, add a brief statement of the object of the action. See Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4(b).
(PLW Oct 27, Nov 3, 10 and 17, 2023)

Place a legal notice at
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

Trumark Homes acquires central California company

San Ramon firm hopes deal will lead to more than \$1 billion in revenue in 2024

By JEANITA LYMAN

San Ramon-based Trumark Homes is seeking to expand its reach into further stretches of the state, following the recent purchase of a central California company that sets Trumark up for operations in a number of new markets ranging from Fresno to San Luis Obispo.

Trumark officials announced the acquisition of Wathen Castanos Homes on Oct. 12, calling it “the latest example of the company’s strategic growth initiatives to serve homebuyers from the Rockies to the Pacific Ocean.” Terms of the transaction were not released.

“With today’s announcement, our homebuilding portfolio is now contiguous

from Northern California to Southern California,” Trumark co-founder and co-CEO Michael Maples said in a statement. “This is another important step forward in our vision of becoming the dominant regional homebuilder in the West, as this acquisition will allow us to exceed \$1 billion in revenue in 2024.”

Trumark Homes, founded in 1988, has undergone a series of expansions and changes in recent years, including a majority-share acquisition agreement with Japan-based Daiwa House Industry in 2020 and the launch of a new Colorado division in 2021, marking the company’s first steps toward operating outside of California.

“The acquisition of Wathen Castanos

Homes is the next step toward that vision as the company eyes additional growth opportunities in the western United States to take advantage of the vast resources of Trumark’s parent company Daiwa House,” Trumark officials said in the announcement.

In addition to being in line with Trumark’s overall business strategies, officials pointed to a number of commonalities between the company and Wathen Castanos Homes, including similar company culture, mission, and products.

“We are very excited and honored to join the Trumark Homes family,” Wathen Castanos President Josh Peterson. “Over the decades that we have been in the homebuilding industry, we have always been guided

by a foundation of quality and values, a tradition of craftsmanship, and dedication to high quality customer care. Trumark Homes shares these same guiding principles as well as the resources to accelerate our growth, which makes them the perfect match for us.”

Wathen Castanos currently builds homes in Fresno, Clovis, Madera, Monterey Bay and San Luis Obispo.

“Our acquisition of Wathen Castanos Homes is a unique opportunity to fulfill several of our strategic goals,” said Gregg Nelson, Trumark co-founder and co-CEO. “First and foremost, our companies share a similar culture as well as a commitment to building quality homes and providing an unparalleled homebuyer experience.” ■

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during Sept. 18-29 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin and Sept. 25 to Oct. 6 for San Ramon

Pleasanton

3962 Fairlands Drive S. Yang to N. & V. Korshun for \$1,600,000

3743 Fairlands Drive Foreverhome Properties LLC to J. & A. Gupta for \$1,900,000

7845 Foothill Knolls Drive M. & A. Sanchez to Hall Trust for \$2,575,000

1070 Gray Fox Circle Bush Living Trust to Z. & X. Chen for \$3,101,000

1957 Greenwood Road Anderson Living Trust to P. & M. Kulkarni for \$1,550,000

7319 Linwood Court Pegadiotes Family Trust to R. & P. Jayaraman for \$1,520,000

940 Mingoia Street R. & J. Hall to H. Pabla for \$2,675,000

4149 Rennellwood Way Q. Gong to J. & L. Cheng for \$1,308,000

2347 Silver Oaks Lane J. Dye to S. & H. Vashisht for \$3,300,000

1959 Valdosta Court S. & B. Thorkelson to A. & D. Vu for \$1,800,000

5734 Belleza Drive Vella Trust to S. Farooq for \$920,000

4453 Comanche Way Freitas Trust to V. & S. Dongole for \$596,000

3743 Kamp Drive E. Alba to S. & Y. Sun for \$1,475,000

7898 Medinah Court Penner Trust to Gopalswamy Living Trust for \$1,712,000

5260 Northway Road #104 K. & K. Bates to M. & Q. Gong for \$1,530,000

3403 Park Place Trivedi Family Trust to R. & S. Bommaiah for \$1,725,000

5535 Paseo Navarro Lees Family Trust to S. & N. Pasumarthy for \$1,950,000

621 Saint Mary Street Magoffin Trust to Juhl Trust for \$1,422,000

3334 Santa Rita Road S. Jayabalan to S. & R. Kumar for \$755,500

1821 Via Di Salerno KB Home to S. & P. Sirse for \$970,500

7981 Winged Foot Court Sorensen Living Trust to Zaballos Trust for \$2,200,000

4716 Woodthrush Court Ignacio Family Trust to Y. & C. Cheng for \$1,841,000

Livermore

1694 Arrowhead Avenue L. Venugopalan to L. & V. Jakku for \$1,045,000

306 Church Street M. Huerta to L. & B. Mckee for \$750,000

406 Coleen Street Penfold Living Trust to Foreverhome Properties LLC for \$900,000

5428 Desiree Avenue C. & C. Talbot to A. Gomez for \$1,265,000

3221 Edinburgh Drive L. Looney to O. & R. Bajpai for \$1,470,000

1149 Essex Street Mary L Ludwig Living Trust to R. Owner for \$1,125,000

2434 Lakeside Circle D. Garcia to J. & J. Benham for \$2,255,000

5154 Lenore Avenue A. & B. Walker to Rata Family Trust for \$1,260,000

472 Persimmon Common #10 K. Patel to F. & L. Lau for \$930,000

1299 Rolling Hills Court C. & D. Saenz to D. & P. Stoicich for \$1,295,000

562 Selby Lane N. & A. Zhyzhkevych to G. & M. Brundage for \$1,030,000

221 Silverstone Common Y. & Z. Lai to M. & N. Mehra for \$1,150,000

230 Sonia Way Patters Family Trust to M. & P. Ramineni for \$1,440,000

663 Starling Avenue S. Falcon to L. Lai for \$925,000

5749 Stockton Loop Corbett Family Trust to R. & D. Brozoski for \$2,150,000

1605 Vancouver Way S. Madden to K. & N. Bhatnagar for \$1,420,000

863 Ventura Court Abbruscato Family Trust to A. & S. Gupta for \$1,000,000

289 Wildrose Common #4 S. & C. Kathawala to M. Wolny for \$731,500

5634 Woodrose Way Z. Kitaynik to J. & G. Houser for \$1,250,000

776 Adams Avenue Baxter Trust to C. & K. Anderson for \$993,000

711 Alameda Drive Huber Trust to N. & S. Andhra for \$1,050,000

847 Camelia Drive Partain Family Trust to K. & C. Rogers for \$1,010,000

5787 Cherry Way Jackson Trust to M. & R. Ordonez for \$1,428,000

856 Heidi Court A. Curtis to S. & S. Kayser for \$1,525,000

1215 Lakehurst Road Av Homes LLC to S. & S. Thakur for \$1,220,000

5216 Lilac Avenue M. Vegotsky to C. & T. Banh for \$880,000

2266 Minerva Court A. Baer to C. Shyani for \$2,925,000

1073 Miranda Way J. Berger to H. & W. Tong for \$917,000

856 Olivina Avenue Tschritter Family Trust to D. & J. Swift for \$475,000

3944 Purdue Way Bouillercer Family Trust to T. & M. Rhine for \$1,080,000

3539 Ridgecrest Way J. & Y. Margalit to T. & K. Vong for \$1,680,000

601 Sandalwood Drive #3 O. Womble to R. & M. Rozran for \$1,065,000

771 Wimbledon Lane Eddleman Family Trust to Engeldinger Trust for \$1,300,000

Dublin

7733 Bloomfield Terrace G. & A. Riller to X. He for \$2,330,000

3465 Dublin Boulevard #227 Randhawa Family Trust to Y. & M. Hsu for \$720,000

3245 Dublin Boulevard #132 Kalaga Trust to Kuchibhatla Trust for \$788,000

10848 Glengarry Lane J. & J. Liang to T. & Y. Chen for \$855,000

3290 Maguire Way #223 J. & R. Alavi to N. & L. Liu for \$818,000

7541 Oxford Circle #126 F. & G. Degenhardt to A. & R. Bindal for \$930,000

5538 Stout Street L. Ng to A. Kumar for \$1,132,500

7420 Diamond Mountain Road J. Zheng to M. Luong for \$2,510,000

6603 Eensburg Lane Chrislock-Stafano Trust to H. & A. Patel for \$1,270,000

5723 El Dorado Lane K. Wong to Q. & Z. Yu for \$1,200,000

3341 Monaghan Street M. & Y. Wang to G. & P. Ngo for \$948,000

7794 Tuscan Drive #23 Z. Tobias to J. Suen for \$727,500

4619 Westwood Court Kwak Living Trust to Vimal Family Trust for \$2,521,000

San Ramon

9085 Alcosta Boulevard #371 C. Salimath to B. Wu for \$555,000

9025 Alcosta Boulevard #250 M. Lim to A. & K. Wong for \$645,000

9835 Broadmoor Drive A. & A. Liu to S. & S. Sarangi for \$1,550,000

505 Haiti Court Critchlow Living Trust to Reddy Trust for \$1,825,000

633 Hardcastle Court Y. Wang to N. & P. Mangla for \$2,800,000

3001 Marlboro Way Oliner Living Trust to T. & C. Lee for \$1,630,000

1006 Mary Beth Terrace Toll West Coast LLC to P. & P. Dasari for \$2,098,000

1002 Mary Beth Terrace Toll West Coast LLC to S. & Y. Sung for \$1,889,500

409 Norris Canyon Terrace G. & P. Houdek to W. Zhu for \$642,000

1064 Portabella Terrace Toll West Coast LLC to S. & D. Gee-Calingo for \$1,548,500

110 Reflections Drive #22 Mousalimas Trust to Chilimidos Trust for \$541,000

130 Reflections Drive #15 M. Rozran to Benigno Living Trust for \$589,000

2656 Shadow Mountain Drive Kleyn Family Trust A to U. & N. Sadaram for \$870,000

7518 Stoneleaf Road R. & K. Kogali to S. & S. Sheikh for \$1,051,000

7511 Blue Fox Way Kremer Trust to B. & E. Wells for \$1,000,000

9728 Blue Mound Drive A. & R. Skog to G. & K. Sharma for \$1,831,000

7067 Briza Loop R. Akavaram to I. Nuri for \$1,276,000

6216 Byron Lane L. & S. Yi to G. & A. Deshmukh for \$1,200,000

1308 Canyon Side Avenue Watson Family Trust to A. & S. Shah for \$1,475,000

2010 Canyon Woods Drive #E Steineke Family Trust to J. & K. Abernathy for \$825,000

4 Cherry Hills Court Lim Trust to E. & B. Liu for \$2,200,000

9004 Croydon Circle Hagerty Trust to P. Rosa for \$360,000

601 Guaymas Court C. Rong to X. & H. Wang for \$1,050,000

2506 Harlow Lane J. Velagapudi to J. & K. Josium for \$1,935,000

380 South Overlook Drive J. Lucas to W. & W. Deng for \$834,000

215 Reflections Drive #11 Au Trust to Pisa Properties LLC for \$524,000

9712 Tareyton Avenue E. & P. Sanchez to A. & P. Navaneethakrishnan for \$1,399,000

233 Veritas Court S. & F. Gomes to V. & R. Kate for \$1,839,500

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Sept. 18-29)

Total sales reported: 22
Lowest sale reported: \$596,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,300,000
Average sales reported: \$1,618,045

Livermore (Sept. 18-29)

Total sales reported: 33
Lowest sale reported: \$475,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,925,000
Average sales reported: \$1,193,878

Dublin (Sept. 18-29)

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$727,500
Highest sale reported: \$2,521,000
Average sales reported: 1,288,460

San Ramon (Sept. 25-Oct. 6)

Total sales reported: 29
Lowest sale reported: \$360,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,800,000
Average sales reported: \$1,287,465

Source: California REsource

Source: California REsource



ARMARIO HOMES

TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY



OPEN HOUSE
SAT & SUN 1-4PM

5139 CORONA COURT, PLEASANTON
LISTED AT \$1,599,000



LUXURY RUBY HILL PROPERTY COMING SOON

5 BED | 5 BATH | 5,143 SQ FT
INQUIRE FOR PRICING & SHOWING



SOLD \$101K ABOVE LIST PRICE!

- PENDING IN 7 DAYS
- PRODUCED MULTIPLE OFFERS
- CLOSED IN 14 DAYS!

SOLD \$3,450,000
1034 VIA DI SALERNO, RUBY HILL

Client Makes \$320K PROFIT with Our Expert Home Renovation Services!



SOLD \$111K ABOVE LIST PRICE!

- PRODUCED MULTIPLE OFFERS
- PENDING AFTER 7 DAYS!

SOLD \$1,910,000
1031 KOTTINGER DRIVE, PLEASANTON

We identified and executed home renovations that gave our client the highest return on their investment. We project managed the entire renovation and utilized our trusted vendors.

Who You Work With Matters!



Congratulations!

Meet the talented artist who won our Pumpkin Carving Contest. Way to go Olivia!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our fun community event!



Info@ArmarioHomes.com
459 Main Street, Pleasanton
www.ArmarioHomes.com





The City just got *a bit more iconic*

Our intention has always been to grow with thoughtful purpose and to seek opportunities that extend our reach with the most positive impact possible on our agents, clients, and communities. Growth through values and culture has always served us best. And we are happy to accomplish just that in San Francisco, Marin County, and Wine Country. **Follow our stride at sereno.com**

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE
— SERENO —

SAN FRANCISCO • PENINSULA • SILICON VALLEY • EAST BAY • SANTA CRUZ
MARIN • WINE COUNTRY • TAHOE • SIERRA FOOTHILLS • CENTRAL COAST

DRE 02101181

REAL ESTATE = REAL RELATIONSHIPS



Liz Venema & Michelle Kroger

PENDING
 1 day on market | 21 offers!
 All cash | 5 day close!
 \$336K over list price | Referral
 1072 Lancer Drive, San Jose



Lisa Desmond & Liz Venema

FOR SALE
581 East Angela, Pleasanton
 5 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,323 Sq. Ft. | \$2,399,000
 We Appreciate the opportunity to work with PAST CLIENTS who love, trust, and know the value of our team.



Steve Venema, Owner Vista Construction & Liz Venema

FOR SALE
1533 Loganberry Way, Pleasanton
 4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,353 Sq. Ft. | \$1,895,000
 We were hired based on our past triumph in the neighborhood. Vista Construction updated exterior and interior for the win!



FOR SALE
42 Golf Road, Castlewood
 5 Bedrooms | 5 Bathrooms | 4,233 Sq. Ft. | \$3,489,000
 This gorgeous home was our past sale. Our marketing and team success is why the current owners chose us!



Brenda Meckenstock & Liz Venema

COMING SOON
 in Ruby Hill

5 Bedrooms | 6.5 Bathrooms | 7,030 Sq. Ft.



Alexis Venema & Liz Venema

COMING SOON
 in Ruby Hill

5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Bathrooms | 6,121 Sq. Ft.

We are grateful 98% of our clients are referral based! Who do you know that we should know talking about selling, buying, or investing in REAL ESTATE?



The strength of a team to help you move.

If you're thinking about selling your home, now is the time because inventory is historically low. Call us today to learn how our proven strategies can get you the highest possible price for your home.



SOLD
\$300K
OVER ASKING
WITH MULTIPLE
OFFERS

3622 Diablo Court
Pleasanton
4bd/3ba, 3,065+/-sq.ft
21,490+/-sq.ft lot
SOLD FOR \$2,829,000



SOLD

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



SOLD

2451 Sevillano Circle
Livermore
4bd/3.5ba, 3,704+/-sq ft
15,176+/-sq ft lot
SOLD FOR \$2,800,000



SOLD
\$316K
OVER ASKING
WITH MULTIPLE
OFFERS

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



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