

Pleasanton Weekly

Real Estate
Spring Preview

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A park of possibilities

State officials reimagining the future of rustic Alameda-Tesla property

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Community Patriots

Pleasanton leaders and supporters will join family and friends next month in honoring three outstanding local contributors at the 2024 Ed Kinney Community Patriot award reception: Bill Butler and Lisa and Randy Brown.

Organized by Pleasanton nonprofit foundation Make A Difference, Today & Always, the award program named for the late former mayor of the city aims to recognize people who “exemplify through their actions love, pride, faith, belief and devotion to our community — as did Ed.”

This year’s recipients fit the bill to a tee.

A Navy veteran and married father of four children, Butler became a household name around town during two very different (yet equally successful) fund-



Bill Butler

raising campaigns nearly 15 years apart: the pre-construction effort for the Firehouse Arts Center in the late 2000s and the Yes committee for the school district’s Measure I bond in the fall of 2022.

In addition to his time on the board of the then-Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation, Butler has volunteered on a range of community projects and coached youth sports for years, particularly basketball, according to award organizers. He also received a Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award last year.

“I think in short, I am both humbled and honored to receive the recognition,” Butler told me about being named a 2024 Community Patriot. “Previous recipients have done so much in guiding Pleasanton to be such a wonderful community to live and be a part of. I have always felt it was the least I could do to try and impact the community in a positive manner.”

He added, “I often joke around that Navy is actually an acronym for ‘Never Again Volunteer Yourself’ (I am a Naval Academy grad and former Navy pilot), but truth be told I have always been the better person for having stepped forward to serve. It has been incredibly gratifying and personally fulfilling to do so and as a result, I have been rewarded with wonderful experiences and friendships with those who also care deeply about Pleasanton.”

Lisa and Randy Brown have been making an impact on Pleasanton from almost the moment they moved



CHRISTINA GRAY

Lisa and Randy Brown

to the city in 2013, getting involved with nonprofits and fundraising efforts as a way to meet fellow residents and learn about their new community, according to the award organizers. Lisa has volunteered for the Livermore Valley Wine Foundation, Museum on Main and American Cancer Society/Relay for Life. She is currently the board president for Goodness Village, for which her husband is board member too. The couple also used to serve on the old ValleyCare Charitable Foundation board.

Randy is a past president of the Pleasanton Rotary Club and Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, and he is this year’s board president for the Pleasanton Downtown Association. He gives back to American Legion and Pleasanton Military Families efforts (he’s a Coast Guard veteran), emceed fundraisers for various groups including Agape Villages, and has built and donated over a dozen Little Free Libraries.

“We are incredibly honored to have received the Ed Kinney Community Patriot Award, as we deeply cherish our community. This recognition means a great deal to us to follow in the footsteps of the past honorees,” Lisa told me.

Randy added, “It’s been a joy to weave ourselves into the fabric of Pleasanton and to be embraced by this wonderful town. Pleasanton is special and unique, and that’s because of the people who have come before and poured their hearts and souls into this place.”

“We are so passionate about leaving a place better than when we found it,” he continued. “Lisa and I want our legacy to be one of family and community service. Pleasanton has welcomed our passion for volunteerism and allowed us to be active and make an impact. Receiving acknowledgement for this is humbling and something we will always treasure.”

The Browns and Butler will receive their awards at a reception set for the evening of May 6 at the Museum on Main in downtown Pleasanton. ■

About the Cover

Situated between Livermore and Tracy, the Alameda-Tesla property is at the center of a new multi-phase project by the California State Parks and Recreation Commission to reinvent its future with more public access. Photos by Nicole Gonzales. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXV, Number 14



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Is there anything you don't like to share with others, even those with whom you're very close?



Jose Ochoa
Architect

I don't like to share financial information with others. My wife and I just prefer to keep that private. Aside from that though, I'm basically happy to just share everything I know, and everything I have, with everyone I'm with.



Paul De Groot
Self-employed

Primarily, I don't like to share my political views because it used to be that people could have a reasonable discussion over political views, without anyone being dismissive, condescending or disrespectful of other people's beliefs. It's not like that anymore. So I'm very cautious about having conversations about politics out of concern over how others might react.



Erica Aguado (with her firstborn)
Marketing

Well, basically, I'll tell anyone anything and share anything with them, too. I wear my heart on my sleeve and will give anyone who needs it, the shirt off of my own back. But I will not share my firstborn child with anyone. My magnificent daughter. At least not yet.



Michelle Gabrielle
Self-employed

I don't like sharing food with other people, or my dinner plate, with anyone other than my husband. Mostly because of my fear of germs and not wanting to get sick.



Kody Smith, and Rory
Plant manager

Honestly, I really don't mind sharing anything with anyone, except for the care of my dog Rory. Unless I know someone has been vetted and is good with Rory, and can responsibly provide him with the right level of care, comfort and love, I will not share him.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

I-680 SB closure

The closure of southbound Interstate 680 in Pleasanton and Sunol is on as scheduled for this weekend given the current weather forecast, according to Caltrans.

To facilitate major and efficient repavement work, Caltrans is shutting down the southbound side of the freeway from the I-580/I-680 connector in Dublin and Pleasanton down to Koopman Road in Sunol from 9 p.m. Friday (April 26) until 4 a.m. Monday (April 29).

Detours will be set up to divert traffic accordingly, according to Caltrans, which notes that I-680 northbound, I-580 and Highway 84 will remain open in full. Access to southbound Foothill Road and Pleasanton Sunol Road will also be restricted.

This is expected to be the final weekend-long closure of southbound I-680 through the specific area after multiple prior ones. Caltrans said weekend lane closures on southbound I-680 in the San Ramon area are on tap for May, but they will not result in a full shutdown of the freeway. Learn more at dot.ca.gov.

Day of Prayer

The Alameda County Interfaith Advisory Council is holding its 2024 National Day of Prayer program next Thursday (May 2) in the amphitheater at the fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

District 1 Supervisor David Haubert, who has organized past iterations of the event, is serving as an honorary speaker. "I am privileged to be a part of this congressionally recognized annual day of observance, which unites diverse religious faiths from across the Bay Area to pray for our nation," he said.

The "evening of reflection and unity" will begin with a reception and dinner at 5 p.m. followed by the main programming at 6 p.m., organizers said.

Registration is requested but walk-ins are welcome. The program will be livestreamed as well. For more information, visit ac-iac.org.

Homeowners Fair

Alameda County Assessor Phong La is hosting his fifth annual Homeowners Fair this weekend at the Shannon Community Center in Dublin.

The focus of this year's event will be on accessory dwelling units (ADUs) — granny flats, in-law units, tiny homes, backyard cottages, garage conversions and the like.

"Learn the steps to build an ADU from Dublin city staff," organizers said. "Visit our community resource fair and enter raffles for fun prizes." Admission is free. ■

PUSD Superintendent Haglund stepping down after this year

Moving back to SoCal to be closer to family after helping district prep for 2024-25 academic term

By Christian Trujano

Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund has announced he will be stepping down from his role in the district to move back to Southern California and spend more time with his family.

He told the Weekly his last day will be on Aug. 1 as he will continue to work through July so he can make sure the district is prepared for the first day of school in the fall. He also said that while he is leaving Pleasanton, he doesn't plan on retiring from education any time soon.

"I don't know what's going to come in the future so I'm not going to tell you that other opportunities might not arise, whether it's

teaching at the university level, or consulting or doing any other type of work related to schools," Haglund said. "I'm not ready to sit on a porch in a rocking chair. What I will tell you is that whatever I do, it will be in the proximity of my family and grandchildren."

Haglund was first appointed as superintendent in 2017 — he was the fifth leader Pleasanton Unified had appointed in three years at the time.

During his seven years as superintendent, Haglund made it his goal to not only reduce the amount of turnovers in district positions, but to also create a strong governance and executive team so that the district could carry out more important work that directly

benefits the students, teachers and the community.

"There were some specific issues that needed to be tended to when I took the job," Haglund said. "The board had had a history of infighting, there was a lack of trust in the community, some board members didn't appear to be speaking to each other initially."

That's why he said it was important to him, when he first joined the district, to create a culture of working together at a governance level while also creating a stable executive team that did not turn over as much and had the same principles of prioritizing the district's needs.

"That was kind of task No. 1, because we couldn't do all the other things we needed to do unless we

were kind of in the boat rowing together in the same direction," Haglund said.

During his tenure, Haglund said he was proud of the work PUSD did to address the many facility needs that were brought up during the \$270 million Measure 11 bond campaign in 2016 while also using the district's budget to address those many needs outside of the bond so that the community could see PUSD was doing everything it could to fix what needed to be fixed.

He added that while the pandemic was tough on the district, it did give PUSD the opportunity to carry out many of the Measure 11 facility and grounds improvement projects because students and staff

See **HAGLUND** on Page 9



NICOLE GONZALES

One of the roughly 40 classrooms built in the first phase of construction at the new Emerald High School in Dublin. The campus will accommodate up to 80 classrooms at full capacity.

A glimpse inside Emerald High

New Dublin school set to welcome students in August

By Nicole Gonzales

A new chapter is set to begin for education in Dublin as Emerald High School prepares to open its doors to students, teachers, parents and faculty members later this year.

The much-anticipated school promises to be a hub of learning, community and innovation.

Community members were invited to partake in a tour of the site on April 16, generating excitement and anticipation for the upcoming opening. Led by incoming principal Francis Rojas, assistant principal Lenni Velez, Superintendent

Chris Funk and other district officials, the tour provided a glimpse into the facilities, resources and opportunities that students will soon be able to utilize on their education journey.

The campus, located at 3600 Central Pkwy. on 23 acres of land, will house over 80 classrooms once fully completed.

District officials highlighted the necessity of EHS in addressing the significant growth Dublin has experienced in recent years.

"This community has needed a second high school for a long time," Rojas said. "Over the last 10

years this community of Dublin has invested a lot of money into building what we are now standing in — Emerald High School."

Freshmen and sophomores are slated to step onto campus on Aug. 13, with plans to gradually add a new grade each subsequent year. EHS staff anticipate 950 students to be on site later this year in 42 open classrooms (but the full capacity once completed will be up to 2,500).

"It's an honor and a privilege to be part of the journey toward

See **EMERALD** on Page 8

Plea deal reached in Home Depot homicide

Second-degree murder for shooter who killed employee last year

By Katy St. Clair / BCN

A woman who shot and killed a Home Depot security guard in Pleasanton last year has cut a plea deal with prosecutors, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office said Tuesday. A deal was also reached with her accomplice.

Benicia Knapps, 33, pleaded no contest to a second-degree murder charge with a gun enhancement, according to prosecutors. Co-defendant David Guillory, 32, pleaded no contest to child abuse, accessory to a robbery and evading an officer.

Home Depot employee Blake Mohs, 26, was working at the Pleasanton store as a loss prevention officer on April 18, 2023 when he confronted Knapps over something she stole, prosecutors said.

Knapps resisted Mohs and shot him, then ran to a getaway vehicle being driven by Guillory, which also contained Knapps' child.

About 15 minutes later in the 7000 block of Ney Avenue in

See **PLEA DEAL** on Page 9

A park of possibilities

State officials reimagining the future of rustic Alameda-Tesla property outside Livermore

By NICOLE GONZALES

Amidst the rugged beauty of the Diablo Range, between the cities of Livermore and Tracy, lies a hidden treasure: the Alameda-Tesla property. For almost two decades this 3,100-acre park has allowed limited public access — with its scenic nature views and dirt roads accessible only to a select few.

However, recent developments have signaled a shift as the California State Parks and Recreation Commission extended an invitation to members of the community for an exclusive tour of the enigmatic landscape on April 17.

The tour, organized by the commission, provided participants with a rare glimpse into the history and aspirations for the park.

Situated at 15751 Tesla Road, the Alameda-Tesla property is overseen by the Diablo Range District Office and is surrounded by private property. Parts of the park's terrain can only be reached by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

"This park property has the potential to serve very diverse needs and communities throughout California," said Elizabeth McGuirk,

chief deputy director of California State Parks.

McGuirk highlighted the fact that the location of the site would be able to serve residents of the Central Valley as well as the Bay Area.

"As most of you know, this is a very important and unique property. This park will provide an opportunity for us to help to provide some of that recreational access we know is needed in the Central Valley, but also serve the greater Bay Area community as well," she said.

The site was originally acquired by the state parks department in the late 1990s with the intention of expanding the nearby Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area.

In 2021, state legislation barred its utilization for vehicular recreation. Now, officials hope the park can serve its full potential.

With a vision to preserve the state's natural resources, the parks department unveiled an ambitious multi-phase project aimed at rejuvenating the Alameda-Tesla property. The project's first two phases are anticipated to span five years and encompass crucial elements such as park classification, drafting of a general plan, and conducting an environmental impact assessment.

Phase I of the project, "Park Classification," entails an in-depth evaluation of site conditions and a recommendation for the property's definition.

According to state officials, the classification will play a pivotal role in determining the park's purpose, allotted state resources, conservation efforts, and permissible recreational activities.

Alexandra Stehl, state parks deputy director of strategic planning and recreation services, elaborated on the significance.

"Classification will help lead us in developing and planning the type of activities that we know will be appropriate on the property," Stehl said. "We want to make sure we get that classification right first before we move forward with planning."

"The commission will be back out again before they take any action. The focus today is on what currently exists and then we'll have that conversation when we actually develop a recommendation — we don't have one yet," Stehl added.

Due to the area being too small to be declared a wilderness area, it is qualified to be classified as a state recreation area, state park, state reserve or a state historical site



COURTESY STATE PARKS

The Alameda-Tesla property is home to 45 rare plant species, a vibrant Audubon bird population, golden eagles, mountain lions, and five bat species; the park also serves as a crucial habitat for numerous endangered species.

— each category carrying its own implications for management and preservation.

Phase II of the project will see the development of a comprehensive general plan and environmental impact report, guiding future management decisions and ensuring sustainable utilization of the park's resources.

Through these efforts, officials said they aim to strike a balance between conservation and recreation, fostering a harmonious relationship between visitors and the natural environment.

The park's wilderness offers a sanctuary for an interesting selection of plants and animals.

The area is home to 45 rare plant species, a vibrant Audubon bird population, golden eagles, mountain lions, and five bat species; the park also serves as a crucial habitat for numerous endangered species.

As for now, state officials and regional wildlife experts oversee the park and its upkeep. Once the park becomes open for public recreational use, it is expected that rangers will be handling daily operations.

"We're limited to the maintenance for the roads and trails so that we can get back into the park for fire safety," said April Marson, State Parks sector manager. "We're looking at the invasive plants and

animals and trying to keep those at bay. We are trying to keep our status quo at this point until we get all of our planning activities done."

Chief ranger for the Diablo Range District, Ryen Goering, reflected on the role of rangers in the park.

"We're generally going to be the first responders on scene because all of our parks are very remote. There's these opportunities for rangers to get a really varied experience throughout their career," Goering explained. "It's not a traditional police or sheriff, where you're kind of just stuck on patrol all the time. This will be hands-on, day-to-day work."

Officials shared a sense of optimism for the property's future.

"Our goal is to inspire the public to connect and relate to the park so that in the future they can protect and care for it and continue it for many generations," said State Parks staff member Fiona Catalano.

With a pivotal meeting slated for June 11 where the State Parks and Recreation Commission will finalize the park's name and classification, they said the journey toward unlocking the full potential of Tesla Park has only just begun.

To learn more about the State Parks Department, its conservation efforts or the park site, visit parks.ca.gov. ■



NICOLE GONZALES

Situated at 15751 Tesla Road, the Alameda-Tesla property is overseen by the Diablo Range District Office and is surrounded by private property.

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Council OKs alternative design for Hopyard housing project

Development to include three-story buildings, two-story duets on Harvest Valley church site

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council approved a design change for a developer's plan to build eight, three story multi-family buildings at the site currently occupied by Harvest Valley Christian Church and its affiliated daycare during the April 16 council meeting.

Instead of building 57 townhome-style units, as the developer originally proposed, the council decided to go with what it said was the lesser of two evils and approve a 55-unit alternative even though most council members agreed with the dozens of residents who live near the future project site that the development is not a good fit for that neighborhood.

"This is all about a state power grab on housing," Vice Mayor Julie Testa said during the meeting. "We always talked about 'the city of planned progress' and that's what the state has taken away from us. There really is very little ability to do much with this project. It isn't a project that most of us would have allowed or supported."

The developer of the project Catalyst Development Partners LLC — first submitted an application to build this housing development,

which would be located at 3200 Hopyard Road, back in October 2022.

The Harvest Valley church located there is currently going through the permit process for moving the congregation to a new location at 5587 Sunol Blvd. after Pastor Derek Meekins previously said he agreed to a contract to sell the property to the developer. Meekins had said the church had been going through its emergency savings following the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced the closure of the church's daycare.

Originally the developer planned on building nine three-story buildings with a total of 57 multi-family units made up of 48 townhomes and nine apartments.

That plan went to the city's Planning Commission on Feb. 28 but the commission pushed its vote to approve the project until March 13 after it heard from residents who live in the Valley Trails Drive neighborhood — which is in the same area as the project — speak out against the development.

Many of those same residents who voiced their concerns during the Planning Commission meeting showed out during the council meeting to voice their discontent

with the fact that the city couldn't deny the project, with the city's lack of prior engagement with neighbors regarding the planned development and with how the apartments simply don't fit the aesthetic of the area.

"No one likes this project," Pleasanton resident Connie Cox said. "Several of you in this room have told me you don't like it. The Planning Commission actually said they didn't like it, we in this room don't want it, Parkside doesn't want it, Valley Trails really doesn't want it and I hate it."

Cox is a 44-year resident of the Valley Trails neighborhood who said that while she has been working to protect and improve her neighborhood for over 30 years, fighting against this recent housing project has exhausted her the most compared to any past development.

"People are going to drive by this abomination for the next 50 years or more and wonder who did that," Cox said.

Residents like Cox and others who live in the Valley Trails neighborhood did, however, manage to meet with the lead project applicant, Bruce Myers, who voluntarily offered the now-approved alternative recommendation to bring the



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Rendering of the original design proposal for the residential development at the Harvest Valley Christian Church property.

number of buildings down to eight and the number of units down to 55 — including 47 townhome-style units and eight one-bedroom apartment units. Apart from the eight buildings, there will also be two, two-story duet buildings.

The Planning Commission approved both the original and the alternative design during its March 13 meeting after finding both to be consistent with the city's objective standards and the requirements of the state's housing density bonus law.

The city's Housing Commission

also recommended the approval of the 55-unit option during its March 21 meeting.

Councilmember Valerie Arkin also pointed out that the project, per the city's development process, would have not even gone to the City Council for discussion — but it did because the council had requested a review of the Planning Commission's decision during its March 19 council meeting.

A lot of last week's discussion revolved around several high-level

See **HOPYARD** on Page 10

97%

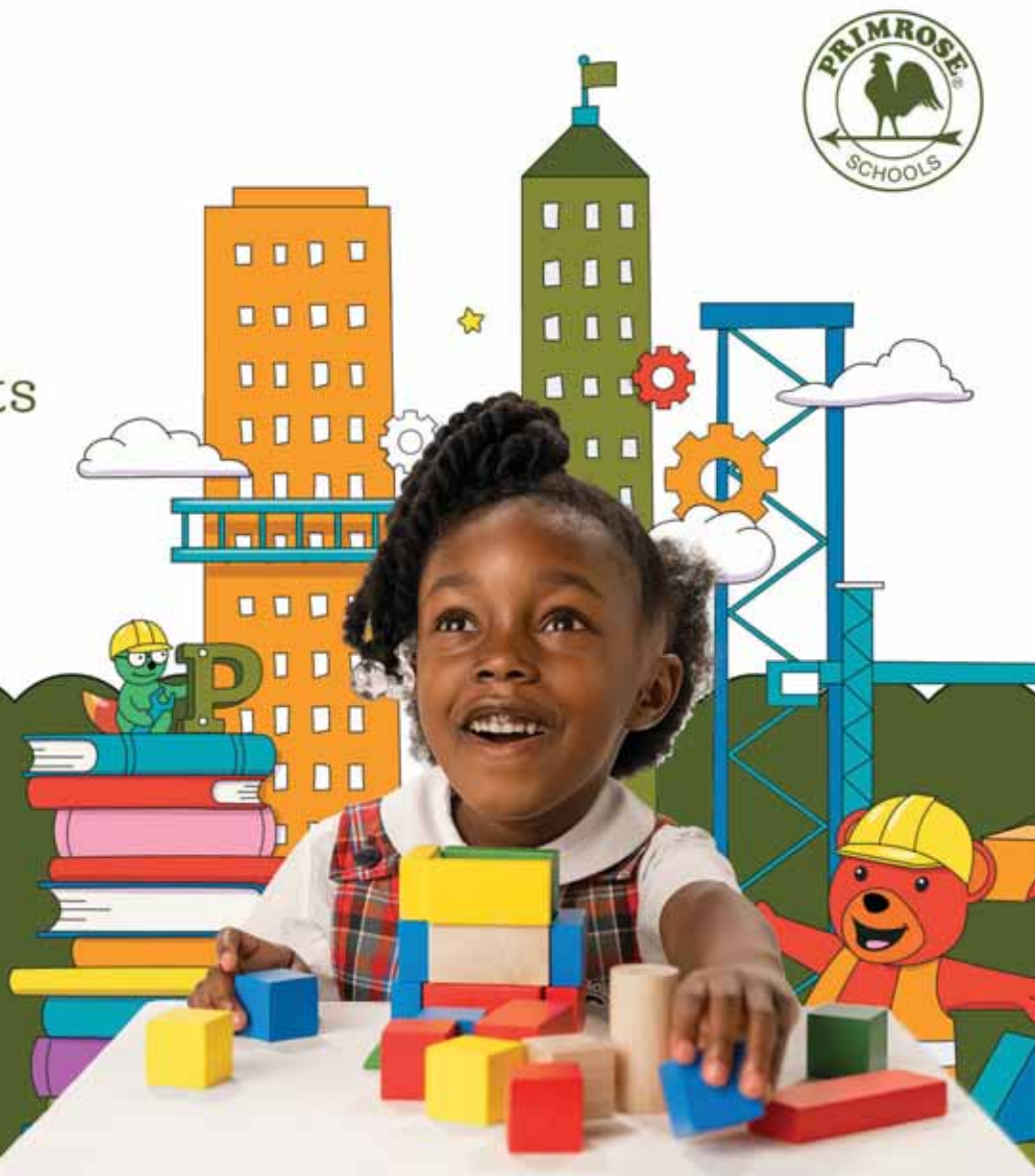
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Foothill earns third place at We the People national finals

Amador Valley team also finishes high during competitive civics tournament

By Christian Trujano

For a second year in a row, Foothill High School's We the People competitive civics team took home the third-place award at the national We the People competition in Washington, D.C.

The 2024 national finals from April 13-15 featured 48 teams overall with thousands of students competing.

"The FHS We the People team is the best group of students to work with because they never stop trying to be the best they can be. Knock on wood," Graham McBride, Foothill's We the People coach, said in a press release last week.

We the People is a national educational program where high school seniors demonstrate their understanding of the U.S. government and the Constitution by participating in simulated congressional hearings, according to the program's website.

These high school teams compete every year at their respective state

competitions in order to get a chance to represent their state at the national level.

Foothill secured a spot in the national competition after earning the second-place wildcard spot during the state competition in February.

Amador Valley High School's We the People team once again also finished in the Top 10 in D.C. after taking seventh place. The Dons qualified for nationals by winning the state championship.

"I'm so proud of this team!" said Stacey Sklar, Amador's We the People coach. "They worked really hard and performed so well. These days it is getting increasingly difficult to make the Top 10 — even last year's champions didn't qualify this year — so it is an honor to have qualified for the final round."

Foothill, as well as Amador, have been consistently representing Pleasanton and the state of California at the We the People national finals

for several years in a row now.

Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund told the Weekly he thinks the competitive civics program is a great program that bonds young people who are interested in law and politics, which he thinks is especially important nowadays.

He also said he always thought it to be incredible how consistently the two Pleasanton high schools perform at such a high level both at the state and national competitions.

"To see our teams do that well, every single year — our teams have gone to the nationals every year that I've been here — in Pleasanton is certainly not because of me, but I've been fortunate to be able to celebrate them along the way," Haglund said.

He explained how it really falls on the teachers and the students every year who invest all that time to be able to compete and do so well in these competitions.



COURTESY PUSD

Foothill High School's We the People team took home third place in the 2024 national finals this month in Washington, D.C.

"That program as a student is not for the faint of heart," Haglund said. "They work multiple hours during weekends, during the school week and even during the wee hours of the morning in preparation for those competitions."

Sklar, who was also recently recognized as the Outstanding American

History Teacher by the California Society Daughters of Colonial Wars, reiterated how great it was to regularly have both of Pleasanton's high schools represent the entire state at these competitions

"To have two teams in Pleasanton who qualify year after year is amazing," Sklar said. ■

Bauer-Kahan advances legislation to regulate AI

Additional bills aimed at restricting digital duplication, defining artificial intelligence

By Jeanita Lyman

A piece of proposed legislation from Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D-Orinda) seeking to eliminate AI bias has advanced in the State Legislature in the latest move on multiple measures from the Tri-Valley representative aimed at regulating the technology.

Assembly Bill 2930 would seek to prevent bias in AI-powered Automated Decision Tools, widely used for credit decisions and increasingly in other domains such as employment screening, insurance eligibility, and healthcare decisions.

"Bias is embedded in the decisions made about our lives," Bauer-Kahan said in an announcement on April



Rebecca Bauer-Kahan

16. "The difference with AI is that it's completely opaque. Without regulation, these tools can reinforce inequality without our knowledge. AB 2930 continues our work to ensure that AI fulfills its promises of progress and does not drag us backwards with biased results."

The bill advanced through its first hearing at the Assembly Committee on Privacy and Consumer Protection on April 16, where it was moved forward with a vote of 8 to 3. It features the support of two major tech companies — Microsoft and Pleasanton-based Workday.

"With a growing appetite to regulate AI at the state level, California can lead the nation in establishing meaningful guardrails," said Chandler Morse, vice president of public policy at Workday. "This new bill would establish concrete requirements and strong protections for consequential decisions driven by AI."

While the advancement served as a milestone for Bauer-Kahan's office and the bill's supporters, this month's vote was just a first step in the review process at the state legislature before the bill makes its way to the governor's desk. From here, it is headed to the Appropriations Committee, then to the Assembly floor, then the State Senate if it advances through the next two steps.

The bill was first introduced in February along with other proposed legislation that would seek to regulate AI, including establishing a registry for AI tools, and restricting digital duplication of deceased performers.

The latter, AB 1836, would prevent the use of generative AI for replicating images or sounds of a performer's face, voice, or likeness following their death, boasting a sponsorship by SAG-AFTRA.

"Over 30 years ago the California

legislature established a property right in voice and likeness for deceased individuals," said Duncan Crabtree-Ireland, chief negotiator and national executive director for SAG-AFTRA. "That law, written decades ago, included express exemptions for audiovisual works and television programs allowing producers of that content to use performers' voice and likeness even without the consent otherwise required by the law."

Crabtree-Ireland noted that the legislation already in the books should be updated to account for advances in AI and new challenges in the present day.

"Nobody at that time imagined that artificial intelligence would arrive and make it possible to easily create new performances by deceased performers," Crabtree-Ireland said. "Nobody thinks it is acceptable to replicate deceased performers without the consent of their family.

Families are offended by this and it's bad public policy for California."

Bauer-Kahan noted that generative AI is already being used to take advantage of artists, pointing to the urgency of the proposed legislation.

"Deceased performers could never have guessed their images would be re-animated through technological means," Bauer-Kahan said. "We must ensure that an artist's intellectual property is not taken advantage of by the unanticipated capacities of AI to make new versions of an artist's work."

She added that the package of bills is the first step toward developing a legislative system that would regulate the rapidly changing enterprise of AI and seek to prevent potential harms in the present and future.

"Creating a regulatory framework where AI tools are tracked, understood, and clearly defined is essential to protect Californians," Bauer-Kahan said. ■

EMERALD

Continued from Page 5

opening Emerald High School. This institution represents not just a building, but a promise of excellence and community," Rojas said.

Emerald is poised to become the first comprehensive high school built in Alameda County in over 50 years, the last being Foothill High School in Pleasanton in 1973. However, in the Tri-Valley, it will be the most recent to open in just under 20 years — Dougherty Valley High opened in San Ramon in 2007.

DUSD officials said the district

saw a 92% increase in student population from 2010 to 2020, so the addition of Emerald is a crucial step in accommodating the community's needs.

During that time, neighboring school districts saw much lower growth rates, with Pleasanton at 0.5%, Livermore Valley at 7.6%, and San Ramon Valley at 10.9%.

"With the changing demographics in the Bay Area, we want to make sure the experience here at Emerald High School reflects the wants and needs of the community it serves," Rojas said.

The journey to bring EHS to

fruition has been years in the making. It began in June 2018 when the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees first approved the location for the school. The site was scheduled for three phases.

Phase 1 would complete the admin building, student union, kitchen, library, gym, locker rooms, academic tower 1, and main sports facilities. Phase 2 will see the construction of an additional academic tower, VAPA extension and stadium bleachers. Phase 3 will see the inclusion of the 600-seat Catherine Kuo Performing Arts Center.

Ground was broken for

construction in the fall of 2020, and after years of work Phase 1 was completed last month. Phase 2 is expected to be finished in April 2025 and Phase 3 in August 2026.

"Our team has worked tirelessly to bring this vision to life, and I couldn't be more proud of what we've accomplished together," Rojas continued.

The \$374 million project received most of its funding from two bonds, Measure H and Measure J, along with Prop 51.

As for academics, the school will offer three career technology education pathways: Project Lead the Way (PLTW) biomedical sciences, PLTW

computer sciences, and PLTW engineering.

An ACCESS Center (Academic College and Career Education Student Support) will be built to provide students with tutoring support or college guidance.

Rojas explained that the new site represents a significant investment in the future of Dublin's education system.

"It's a symbol of opportunity. It is a place where students will have access to state-of-the-art facilities, different academic programs, and a supportive community dedicated to their success." ■

New Chick-fil-A restaurant opens in Pleasanton

Prominent in Hacienda, city's second location offers dine-in and carry-out, but no drive-thru

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The popular fast food restaurant Chick-fil-A officially opened up its second location in Pleasanton last week.

Located in Hacienda at 4501 Hopyard Road, the new location started welcoming customers on April 18 and will be offering dine-in and carry-out services from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, according to a press release from the company.

Unlike its counterpart location at 5785 Johnson Drive, the new Chick-fil-A does not offer drive-thru service.

The company first signed the lease for the new location back in 2022 after the space had been vacant



COURTESY CHICK-FIL-A

An interior look at the new Chick-fil-A restaurant at 4501 Hopyard Road.

following the shuttering of the Sweet Tomatoes buffet chain restaurant, which went bankrupt early in the pandemic.

According to the press release, the new restaurant will bring roughly 35 new jobs to the community, which combined with the other location makes 170 part-time and full-time employees who work at the two eateries.

What makes Chick-fil-A different from other fast food chains, according to the press release, is how most of the restaurants are owned and operated by a single individual who works with their teams every day.

Aaron Clifford, a Watsonville native, became the owner and operator of the Johnson Drive Chick-fil-A

location in 2016 and he was recently selected as the person in charge of the new location, according to the press release.

Clifford jumped around various Chick-fil-A locations and held various leadership positions before taking over the first Pleasanton location in 2016.

"When I started my career with Chick-fil-A nearly 25 years ago, I was drawn to the culture built around caring for others and bringing people together through high-quality, delicious food. It was my dream as a teenager to open a Chick-fil-A in the Bay Area and I was fortunate to do exactly that," Clifford stated in the press release. "I can't wait to expand our impact in Pleasanton with this new restaurant, so we can deliver excellence every day, and have a positive influence on our team members and community." ■

Stanford Health closing Livermore Diabetes and Bariatric Center

Alternative resources and locations cited as provider restructures Tri-Valley network

BY NICOLE GONZALES

In a recent announcement, Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley has shared plans to close one of its centers in the area. Effective May 1, the outpatient services and resources offered at the Diabetes and Bariatric Center located at 1119 East Stanley Blvd. in Livermore will shut down.

The decision to close the Livermore site comes as part of Stanford Health Care's restructuring efforts aimed at optimizing resources and improving efficiency across its network of facilities.

"The closure of the Diabetes and Bariatric Center in Livermore is part of Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley's broader efforts to

streamline resources and improve efficiency across our network of facilities," said Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley representatives. "This decision allows Stanford Medicine to better allocate resources to meet the evolving needs of our patients and community."

Patients who have been receiving care at the Livermore center are

advised that the last day for appointments will be next Tuesday (April 30).

"Patients of the Livermore center are encouraged to transition their care to one of the alternative sites we recommended," representatives said.

Among the suggested alternatives are the Stanford Health Care General Surgery Clinic in Pleasanton (5565

West Las Positas Blvd., Suite 260) or the Washington Hospital Outpatient Diabetes Center in Fremont (1900 Mowry Ave., Suite 305).

Stanford has also recommended Kaiser Diabetes Classes and Programs in Pleasanton (7601 Stoneridge Drive) to find a range of health information sessions and resources for diabetic care.

"Stanford Medicine leaders had careful consideration of various factors before making the decision to close the center," representatives added. "Our priority is to continue providing high-quality healthcare services to our patients." ■

HAGLUND

Continued from Page 5

were not at the sites, which allowed construction companies to conduct their work.

Haglund said that the pandemic opened up some commercial real estate space as well which allowed the district to purchase its new offices on West Las Positas Boulevard and not only provide a better space for staff to work from, but also give the district the ability to sell its office space at the Bernal property for future private development.

The building transition helped with the process to remodel Village High School into the district's proposed Educational Options Center, which was another major achievement during Haglund's tenure.

Haglund said that sitting on pieces of land like the Bernal property and the Neal property — which the district recently sold to a developer to create housing — are important first

steps to create workforce housing and added that the two acres that have been allocated for housing at the Bernal property could even be sold for regular housing in order for the district to purchase another piece of land it is eyeing to build roughly 200 units of workforce housing.

"Whether the workforce housing happens on the Bernal property or somewhere else, that was a big part of our motivation to start leveraging properties differently," Haglund said.

As for who will be replacing him as superintendent, Haglund said the district adopted a succession plan which included bumping Ed Diolazo to the position of deputy superintendent with the goal of having him take over as the superintendent once Haglund was gone.



David Haglund

The original plan was to have someone who knew the job take over if Haglund was absent or on leave for some reason but he said that it's his recommendation that the board will follow the succession plan and appoint Diolazo as the new superintendent.

"My anticipation is that the board will follow that plan," Haglund said. "I don't have any reason to think that they won't."

Whether or not Diolazo will be officially appointed as the superintendent, still needs to be decided by the Board of Trustees. Haglund said he expects the board will discuss those next steps during an upcoming future board meeting.

"We are fortunate to have leaders like Deputy Superintendent Ed Diolazo who has effectively served our community over the past seven years," Board President Mary Jo Carreon said in a statement to the Weekly. "I look forward to discussing next steps of our transition

plan with the Board to provide our community with the ongoing stable leadership it deserves."

While Haglund said he was extremely grateful for the community approving the recent \$390 million Measure I bond to help fund the construction of new athletic and theater facilities — along with the Educational Options Center and other projects — he said he will mostly treasure the work the district has done in supporting teachers and students every day in the classroom. He said his favorite moments as a superintendent have always been the first days of the school year and the graduation ceremonies where he could tell each student how proud he was of them before sending them off into the world.

"I would like to thank Haglund for his strong leadership, his vision to improve facilities and expand learning opportunities for students," Carreon said. "I understand him wanting to be with family and wish him well."

And while he won't be superintendent for the groundbreaking ceremonies for the future Measure I projects or the first days those projects are open to the public, he said he hopes to come back for those moments because he is still and will continue to be invested in Pleasanton.

"My heart's not leaving the community. I'm still committed. I'm still excited," Haglund said. "I know that there's great things coming for the community and largely that's because we have incredible people that are working on this team, incredible teachers and incredible families in the community that believe in what Pleasanton is all about."

Haglund is one out of four Tri-Valley superintendents who will be leaving their school districts at the end of this academic year: San Ramon Valley's John Malloy, Livermore Valley's Chris Van Schaack and Sunol Glen's Molleen Barnes. ■

PLEA DEAL

Continued from Page 5

Oakland, both suspects were located by sheriff's deputies who had been given a "be on the

lookout" vehicle description by eyewitnesses.

Mohs was taken to the hospital, where he later died.

As part of their plea deals, Knapps will serve 19 years to life

in state prison, while Guillory will receive seven years and four months in state prison, prosecutors said. Their official sentencing date is June 6.

"Blake Mohs was murdered for

nothing more than doing his job," DA Pamela Price said in a statement Tuesday evening. "While nothing can be done to undo this senseless tragedy, I hope that holding these two defendants

accountable for taking Blake's life will be an important step in the lifetime healing journey for his family and friends, and they will be able to move beyond their grief and trauma." ■

Former PUSD official escorted off new district; alleges retaliation

Goeken placed on leave by Stockton Unified not long after criticizing 'wrongdoing' in expulsion case

By VICTORIA FRANCO / BCN

The director of child welfare and attendance for Stockton Unified School District was escorted off the district premises this month and placed on administrative leave after coming forward about enrollment drops and alleging he was pressured to approve unethical expulsions.

Kenneth Goeken, who began working for SUSD in the middle of last year and was previously the senior director of special education for Pleasanton Unified School District, said after speaking to members of the media twice, he was asked to come into the school district office on April 11.

He was allegedly told by Glendaly Gascot-Rios, assistant superintendent of human resources, that there would be a police presence and that he needed to pack his belongings and would not be allowed to return to campus.

"I had to turn over my phone and my laptop ... I couldn't even delete my personal files," Goeken alleged.

Goeken said following them escorting him out, he was placed on administrative leave until June 30 — the date when his contract with the district ends.

He said he was told that he would not be returning for the following school year.

"But they did this because I have

been talking to the media and they're (the school district) afraid of the media more than anything else," Goeken said.

A spokesperson for the school district said in an email that this was a personnel matter, and the district can't comment on personnel matters.

Goeken worked at Pleasanton Unified from August 2020 until spring 2022, with a stint at Rocklin Unified School District afterward before joining Stockton Unified.

According to Goeken, the alleged retaliation toward him from the Stockton school district began earlier this year when he spoke up about a "wrongdoing" regarding an expulsion.

In his position, Goeken was responsible for approving or denying expulsions and if he approved then they would move onto a panel that consists of retired administrators.

He said that on Feb. 13 there was a school board closed session meeting held regarding a seventh-grade student from Hoover Elementary School in Stockton who had allegedly assaulted a teacher and was now up for expulsion.

He said the expulsion was declined with three board members voting yes, one voting no, one abstaining and one member was not present at the meeting. The expulsion was not passed because it needed a fourth "yes" vote.

"The student was allowed to come back to school, he wasn't expelled," explained Goeken.

However, he alleged that when he was going to inform the student's parents of the result of the vote, he was told by SUSD Superintendent Michelle Rodriguez to place the student on independent study

despite the vote, which he felt was illegal.

He further alleged that after saying no to placing the student on independent study, he was told by Kasey Klappenback, assistant superintendent of educational services, that the meeting could only be held if her director, Lori Risso, ran the meeting and did all the talking rather than Goeken.

"So, during the meeting they basically lied to the parent," alleged Goeken. "Didn't tell her that the student was no longer expelled, didn't tell her the student was allowed to come back to his home school because of that, what she did tell him is that the board's going to vote on it on the 27th, which was a lie."

He said that following the meeting, he emailed the parent and told them that the director had lied about the expulsion and apologized on his behalf but said he never

See **GOEKEN** on Page 11

City advancing on storm drain repairs

FEMA agrees to reimburse 75% of necessary work; CIP deferral budget to cover rest of project

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The City Council approved a contract last week for the repair and replacement of several storm drains, pipes, pathways and other areas in Pleasanton that were damaged during the early 2023 winter storms.

According to the April 16 staff report, the design professional services agreement, which was approved by the council as part of the April 16 consent calendar, will pay ENGEO Inc. a total of \$782,407 with a 5% contingency of \$39,593 for a total of \$822,000.

Items under the consent calendar are considered routine in nature

and are typically approved by a single vote. ENGEO is an engineering consultant based in San Jose with offices also in San Ramon.

"The contract will include the design of three projects partially funded by (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and two city-funded storm infrastructure improvement projects that will permanently repair sites damaged during the severe winter storms from December 2022 through March 2023," according to an April 17 press release from the city.

Over the last year, the city has completed temporary repairs to restore the storm drain systems that

were damaged in 2023 in order to prepare for the upcoming rainy season. During that time, city staff have been working with FEMA, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the city's on-call consultants to complete damage assessments and identify the scope of work for the various sites that require permanent repairs.

While FEMA has agreed to partially fund several of the necessary repair and replacement projects, that reimbursement will only cover 75% of the total project cost for all of the other necessary repairs. That's why the city will be using money from its budget to fund the others,

according to the press release.

"Two additional critical projects are necessary to ensure the safety of our streets and trails but do not qualify for federal funding and must be funded by the city," according to the press release.

The press release also noted that FEMA does not have a concrete plan on when it will reimburse the city and according to the staff report the city is still collecting reimbursements from the 2017 storms.

That funding will come from a recent adjustment the City Council made during its March 19 meeting to the four-year capital improvement program, which defers funding

from the Ken Mercer Sports Park skatepark upgrade project and the Century House renovation project.

The council had to defer about \$18.9 million in other projects as well from its CIP during that March 19 meeting because the city's budget could not have paid for those additional costs to make those improvements and repairs to the damaged storm drain system.

According to the press release, the estimated cost for all of the necessary stormwater system improvements, "including the city's portion of the FEMA projects, range between \$9.5 million and \$16 million." ■

HOPYARD

Continued from Page 7

topics that were discussed at the previous commission meetings such as parking, safety and traffic, which were all concerns many of the residents had called out.

Many residents said the six surface guest parking spaces along with the two-car garages for the townhomes and one-car garage for the one-bedroom apartments are going to lead to more cars parking on the surrounding neighborhood driveways, which could pose a risk to children who play and walk around those neighborhoods.

Others also called out the traffic study that was conducted for the project saying it did not accurately capture the impact that the 55 additional homes would have on the traffic.

But according to the city's Traffic Engineer Mike Tassano, the housing development will not affect the

number of trips people make at peak rush hours compared to when the church and daycare were fully operational.

"When we look at what sort of impacts we have, for this development it's essentially the same as the impacts that the daycare would have if it opened back up. So our ability to say there's some sort of new impact isn't really there," Tassano said. "Although it's a vacant property, if this develops, the residents will see an increase over the closed daycare but if this didn't come back in and the daycare opened back up, they would also see that increase."

While some residents also said they thought the alternative 55-unit option was the favorable option compared to the original one, others still were upset that they did not receive any notice about the project until the last minute and urged the council to reject developing the project altogether.

But as Mayor Karla Brown had city attorney Dan Sodergren point

out, if the city did deny the project, the developer would have had the option to sue the city.

"It would be subject to judicial review and there could be a possibility that the city would have to pay the plaintiffs attorneys fees," Sodergren said.

The last major part of last week's discussion, which took up most of the meeting, was the affordability aspect of the eight-one bedroom units which will be deed-restricted to lower-income households in order to meet the city's inclusionary zoning requirements and to qualify for waivers and concessions pursuant to the state housing density bonus law.

The council ended up voting 4-1, with Testa dissenting, to allow the developer to make the units available for sale at \$375,000 per unit, which is equivalent to 100% of the average median income (AMI) with a time limit to sell them in five years from the time the developer pulls the construction permits.

But the council's main discussion revolved around using \$250,000 from its lower income housing fund to close the affordability gap should the housing price not perform at the \$375,000 price level.

"The goal is to deliver affordable housing at 100% AMI as our first goal, and potentially buy to a deeper subsidy or buy to a deeper level of AMI, if those opportunities present themselves at the time, but not exceeding \$250,000," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said.

The majority of the council did say it did not have an interest in using affordable housing dollars for the project but as Beaudin explained, the only way to keep the project's affordability level at that 100% AMI was to allocate those \$250,000 — even if the city ends up not having to use that money.

He said without that money, the eight one-bedroom units could go up to 120% AMI, which he said is not an attractive number for affordability.

"What it does is it helps us to guarantee that we could bring those units in at 100% AMI, it guarantees the applicant the \$375,000 that they're looking for for those units and then we would only add dollars to that project in the event the sale price based on the market conditions didn't achieve the \$375,000," Beaudin said. "We're not buying the units down to 80% (AMI) and we're only gap filling in the event that the market doesn't perform in the way that we've anticipated."

Testa dissented because she said she could not support allocating money for a for-profit company, which her colleagues agreed wasn't what they wanted to do either, but they said it was the only way to move forward.

"I absolutely do not support subsidizing a for-profit development with the affordable housing dollars," Testa said. "I think that those dollars must go to affordable housing and they need to be used wisely." ■

Longtime PUSD admin promoted to assistant superintendent of HR

Grewal fills position permanently after working in role on interim basis for months

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Unified School District recently elevated one of its longtime administrators to take over as assistant superintendent of human resources following the departure of former assistant superintendent Julio Hernandez.

Nimarta Grewal, who first joined the human resources department in 2022 as a senior director, was named as Hernandez's replacement during the April 11 school board meeting.



Nimarta Grewal

"I want to thank you all for this honor and trust that you're placing in me," Grewal said during the board meeting. "(I'm) really committed to our students and our staff in Pleasanton."

Grewal had been serving as interim assistant superintendent of human resources ever since Hernandez left in December. Prior to joining the human resources department, she had served as the director of secondary education for the district and as coordinator of technology services.

Before her time on the administrative team, she served as vice principal of Amador Valley High

School for almost five years and later took the helm as interim principal.

"We are fortunate to have a strong, dynamic leader with such a breadth of experience within our PUSD community as a teacher, site administrator, and district leader," PUSD Superintendent David Haglund said in a statement to the Weekly. "I have observed her work in many of these roles and have every confidence that she is the right person to take on this critical role in PUSD."

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved Grewal's appointment during the closed session portion of the meeting and then approved her employment agreement during the final moments of open session.

According to the staff report, Grewal's starting base salary — which includes health benefits, degree stipends, and other benefits — will be \$238,312 annually.

Grewal reminisced about her 22-year-long career at PUSD and said that after teaching for 12 years and being in administration for 10, she didn't think she would be taking on this new role, but said that she is ready to do her best.

"It's where I spent my entire career in education," Grewal said. "My own children went to these schools, so I appreciate this and I will do my best to serve the community of Pleasanton." ■

GOEKEN

Continued from Page 10

heard back from the parent.

Additionally, Goeken had filed an Office of Civil Rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Education in February in connection with the treatment of the expulsion of the student.

Ultimately, the expulsion of the Hoover student was placed on the board agenda again and he was expelled.

On Feb. 20, Goeken was allegedly told by Gascot-Rios that he was going to be fired due to him reaching out to the parent of the student.

"They voted illegally without giving the parents an opportunity to be present so then the kid was immediately expelled. So that whole incident is what led to, to me, being unilaterally fired in retaliation for speaking up," Goeken alleged.

Later when Goeken spoke to the media about the handling of expulsions and discussed students from Stagg High School in Stockton allegedly leaving due to safety issue

concerns, he was given a letter of reprimand by the district.

A spokesperson for the district alleged that enrollment had declined at Stagg High School due to students transferring to specialty schools and said the principal at Stagg stated that the number of students leaving is average.

"The number of incoming ninth grade students are coming down because those students are being accepted into SUSD specialty schools," a district spokesperson said in a statement.

However, Goeken alleged that students were not leaving Stagg to go to specialty schools but rather because of safety.

He said in the past two years, two students from Stagg High School had died — two deaths he claimed could have been prevented.

"The worst part though isn't myself, it's staff in Stockton now see that even a director who handles expulsions was retaliated and fired for speaking up for students and staff and trying to protect them," Goeken said. ■

SUMMER

CAMP CONNECTION

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#1 AI+AR STEM & Art Camp for Ages 5-18. Delve into AI, Holographic AR, coding, Robotics, 3D, game design, STEM, art, animation, Space/Nature Exploration and more. ACS WASC Accredited & NVIDIA-partnered camp. Great instructors, small classes! Since 2018, thousands of students have joined the camp. Use the code PSW24 to save.

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Focus on sewing stylish, wearable clothing, accessories, craft and jewelry projects, while introducing children to fashion design concepts, sewing techniques, basic pattern manipulation and fashion illustration. Sewing machines and notions provided. FREE fabric for first day of the camp. Early Bird Registration Special, as well as many discount options available.

Las Positas College Summer Camps

tinyurl.com/LasPositasCTESummerCamps

3D Modeling Camp

• July 8-11 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm | Room 714
• \$100 per student per session | Age Group: High School
Want to learn how to make games and motion pictures? Learn basic 3D modeling techniques and animation using Autodesk Maya and Adobe Photoshop Tools.

Automotive Technology Camp

• June 10-13 | 8:00 am to 1:00 pm | Room 3503
• \$100 per student per session | Age Group: High School
Have you ever wanted to know more about your car but do not have time to take an 18-week course? This camp is for you. Learn how to change your own oil and filter, read the digital code on tires, and gain general knowledge about cars. Learning through experience in our state of the art facility, wear clothes that may get dirty!

Creature Design Camp

• High School | June 17-20 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm | Room 714
• Middle School | June 24-27 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm | Room 714
• \$100 per student per session
Learn the fundamentals of creature design. Many professional illustrators focus on creature design; they create works for movies, games, and animation. In this camp, we will use Adobe Photoshop to sketch and paint creatures, taking into consideration their anatomy, environment, and behavior.

Interior Design Camp

• June 24-27 | 10:30 am to 12:30 pm | Online
• \$100 per student per session | Age Group: High School +
Interested in learning how to decorate homes or become an interior designer? Learn the elements and principles of interior design with an emphasis on the use of color and texture in the selection of home furnishings using a computer aided design (CAD) program.

JAMS Press Pass Journalism Camp

• June 17-20 | 10:00 am to 3:00 pm | Room 2409
• \$100 per student per session | Age Group: High School
Interested in entertainment journalism? A career in entertainment journalism might just begin here. This camp will give students an opportunity to try their hand at the craft and gain insight on industry practices. Develop skills including writing, interviewing, storytelling, multimedia reporting, and even debate.

Jazz Camp

• Middle School | June 17-20 | 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Room 4000 | \$150 per student per session
• High School | June 24-27 | 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Room 4000 | \$200 per student per session
Each summer, we welcome young students of all ability levels to our campus for 4 intensive days where we work on: Improvisation, Music Theory, Performance, Rehearsal, and much more. Campers work directly with LPC Music Faculty

and Alumni and present a public performance on the Mertes Main Stage. The theme for the 2024 Jazz Camp will be "Women in Jazz".

Public Safety Academy Camp

• June 10-14 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm | Room 3434
• \$100 per student per session | Age Group: High School
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POLICE BULLETIN

DA reviewing death penalty cases for potential racial bias in jury selection

Alameda County District Attorney Pamela Price said Monday her office is reviewing dozens of death penalty cases over possible prosecutorial misconduct.

At a press conference in front of a federal courthouse in San Francisco, Price said she's investigating all 35 of the county's existing death penalty cases for possible evidence that Black and Jewish people were excluded from juries because of their race.

"The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a trial by an impartial jury of one's peers," Price said. "Any practice by prosecutors to eliminate potential jurors because of their race betrays that core pillar of the criminal justice system."

Price said her office was ordered to look into the cases by U.S. District Judge Vince Chhabria after potential wrongdoing was found during the resentencing settlement of Ernest Dykes.

Dykes was convicted and sentenced to death in 1995 for the attempted murder of Bernice Clark and the murder of her 9-year-old grandson Lance Clark during an attempted robbery in 1993, according to Price's office.

The cases go back as far as 1977 and it's unclear how long the review process will take or how many prosecutors might have blocked jurors because of their race.

"It will take a long time," Price said. "We don't know how long. Each case we will have to review individually."

Some of the existing evidence includes hand-written notes about specific people who were left off of juries that identify them as Black or Jewish, she said.

"Additionally, we have the transcripts of some of the ways in which the jurors were questioned," Price said. "It's not limited to one or two prosecutors. It's a variety of prosecutors."

Price said people who think they might have been impacted by these cases can contact the county's Victim-Witness Advocates at 510-208-9555 or shawnmitchell@acgov.org.

—Bay City News Service

In other news

• The Livermore community continues to rally in support of the young survivors of a deadly crash in Manteca, raising more than \$60,000 through online fundraisers for the three local siblings whose father, mother and two brothers were killed in the fiery rollover two weekends ago.

The San Joaquin County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed the identities of the decedents last week: Livermore residents Arriaga Bonifacio Negrete, 44; Liliana Guerrero Mendoza, 40; Jorge Negrete Guerrero, 12; and David Negrete Guerrero, 4 months old.

Livermore school officials addressed the situation and offered support at the respective campuses where the four school-aged children in the family attended, according to district officials.

"Our hearts go out to the Negrete family," Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Superintendent Chris Van Schaack told the Weekly.

"The tragic loss of multiple family members, including one of our seventh grade students, and the serious injury to other siblings can only be described as devastating," he said. "Our social worker is working closely with extended family members to understand how we can best support those caring for our surviving students at this time."

"We have a very compassionate and generous LVJUSD community that immediately organized collections of gift cards and other essential items for the family," Van Schaack added. "We will continue to provide support to our students as they recover from their physical injuries and cope with their grief and loss."

Jeannette Garza, principal of Jorge's school, shared the sad news with the Junction TK-8 School community in an email on April 15.

"I partnered with our crisis team lead to inform seventh grade students

of the loss of their classmate earlier today; we have been able to provide immediate grief support to students who need it. We will also be meeting with 1st and 3rd grade classes to let them know that one of their classmates was in an accident and is in the hospital," Garza said.

"Our crisis team, counselors, and administrators will continue to provide ongoing resources to students to mourn and process their grief in safe, supportive, and professionally staffed environments," she added.

Granada High School principal Clark Conover also emailed his campus community, as the eldest surviving sister attends the school.

The seven family members were traveling in a 2011 Toyota Sienna minivan westbound on Highway 120 east of the Van Ryn Avenue interchange in Manteca just after 10 p.m. April 13 in damp conditions, according to the California Highway Patrol's Stockton office. They were on their way back home passing through Manteca after attending a quinceanera in Modesto that day, according to a GoFundMe organizer.

The father behind the wheel lost control for unknown reasons, and the minivan struck the center median, continued moving westbound in the grass area between the two sides of the highway and ultimately became airborne while traversing the Van Ryn Avenue undercrossing, according to the CHP. The minivan then struck the overpass, overturned and caught fire.

Bystanders who witnessed the crash pulled four of the juvenile passengers from the fiery wreckage — two survivors (a 14-year-old girl and a 9-year-old boy) and two who died at the scene (12-year-old Jorge and a 4-month-old David), according to authorities.

The father Negrete and mother Guerrero Mendoza, who was a

passenger, were also pronounced dead on-scene. A 6-year-old girl also survived the crash and was transported to UC Davis Medical Center with major injuries, according to the CHP. The other two injured kids were taken to area hospitals as well.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation, according to the CHP.

—Jeremy Walsh

• A motorcyclist died after crashing and being struck by a semi truck on Interstate 580 in Livermore last week, according to the California Highway Patrol.

The decedent was Christopher Joseph Corrado, 38, of Discovery Bay, according to the Alameda County Coroner's Bureau.

The California Highway Patrol said the motorcyclist was riding westbound on I-580 west of North Livermore Avenue around 9 a.m. April 18 when he failed to slow for traffic conditions ahead and collided with the back of a Mercedes SUV.

The force of the collision threw the man from the No. 2 lane into the No. 4 lane, where he was struck by a big-rig with a trailer, according to the CHP. A second big-rig then ran over the motorcycle.

A fifth vehicle was also involved in the collision, and all drivers stopped at the scene, according to the CHP.

The circumstances of Corrado's death remain under investigation. It is not yet known whether drugs or alcohol were factors, according to the CHP. Multiple lanes of the freeway were closed for more than two hours that day.

—Jeremy Walsh

• Involuntary manslaughter charges will be filed against three Alameda city police officers in connection with the 2021 in-custody death of Mario Gonzalez, DA Price said last week.

The charges come a year after Price reopened the case, which her predecessor Nancy O'Malley concluded didn't have enough evidence to warrant criminal charges.

The officers, Eric McKinley, James Fisher and Cameron Leahy, were charged after an extensive review of Gonzalez's death by prosecutors with the district attorney's Public Accountability Unit, said Price, who held a news conference on the evening of April 18.

Gonzalez, 26, died April 19, 2021, after he was restrained by officers in a public park in the 800 block of Oak Street, when they learned he was a suspect in a shoplifting incident.

An initial autopsy stated the cause of Gonzalez's death as "the toxic effects of methamphetamine, with the physiological stress of altercation and restraint, morbid obesity, and alcoholism contributing to the process of dying," the coroner's autopsy report said.

O'Malley's office ended an investigation into the case in 2022, clearing the officers of any criminal liability in Gonzalez's death.

In 2023, newly installed Price reopened the case. A second autopsy has attributed Gonzalez's death to "a result of restraint asphyxiation."

The officers could face up to four years in prison if convicted of involuntary manslaughter, according to Price.

On the evening of April 18, the city of Alameda released a statement saying that one of the three officers involved is no longer employed at the department, and the other two have been placed on administrative leave.

In December, the city announced two settlements with Gonzalez's family. One would pay \$11 million to his estate/son and the second would pay \$350,000 to his mother. ■

—Bay City News Service

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

April 20

Robbery

■ 2:15 p.m. on the 1700 block of Santa Rita Road

Theft

■ 7:26 p.m. on the 5300 block of Black Avenue

April 19

Theft

■ 8:14 a.m., 5300 block of Owens Court; theft from auto

■ 10:17 a.m., 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue; auto theft

■ 1:03 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

April 18

Trespassing/prowl

■ 10:30 a.m. on the 5500 block of Springhouse Drive

Theft

■ 10:31 a.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting

■ 11:46 a.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

■ 1:14 p.m., 5900 block of Owens Drive; auto theft

Drug violation

■ 6:49 p.m. at Stoneridge and Santa Rita drives

April 17

Theft

■ 10:22 a.m., 5800 block of Owens Drive; theft from auto

■ 1:43 p.m. on the 4700 block of Willow Road

■ 6:01 p.m., 7000 block of Johnson Drive; theft from auto

Graffiti offense

■ 1:27 p.m. on the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

■ 1:43 p.m. at Valley Avenue and Busch Road

Vandalism

■ 3:45 p.m. on the 5100 block of Hopyard Road

Alcohol violation

■ 6:07 p.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

■ 6:28 p.m. at Stoneridge and Santa Rita drives

Assault/battery

■ 6:42 p.m. at Main Street and Rose Avenue

April 16

Warrant arrest

■ 4:40 a.m. on the 4200 block of First Street

Theft

■ 10 a.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting

■ 3:10 p.m., 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue; bicycle theft

■ 6:46 p.m., 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 8:58 p.m., 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Missing person report

■ 1:10 p.m. on Stoneridge Mall Road

April 15

Warrant arrest

■ 7:16 a.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Fraud

■ 9:10 a.m. on the 1300 block of Benedict Court

Vandalism

■ 9:24 a.m. at Sandalwood and Highland drives

■ 2:04 p.m. at Foothill Road and Canyon Way

■ 3:02 p.m. on Tonopah Circle

Theft

■ 10:13 a.m. on the 5700 block of Stonecliff Vista Lane

■ 1:39 p.m. on the 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 2:26 p.m., 2400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 5:46 p.m., 6300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; auto theft

Domestic battery

■ 5:16 p.m. at Owens and Rosewood drives

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

HIGHLIGHTS

Library Commission Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

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

- Receive Information and Provide Input on Library Privacy Policy Development
- Review and Discuss the 2024 Summer Reading Program at the Pleasanton Public Library
- Receive the May 2024 Pleasanton Public Library Events Calendar

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

BY DAVID HAGLUND

Bringing this chapter to a close

Almost seven years ago I was honored with the opportunity to serve as Superintendent in Pleasanton, a community I would grow to love.

My thanks to Joan, Mark, Jamie, Valerie and Steve for your confidence in me and our ongoing friendships. While I have mixed emotions in sharing my decision to leave PUSD at the end of this year and refocus attention on family, it was important to me to say thank you.

While serving the Pleasanton community I have had the privilege of witnessing and engaging with the dedication and passion of our students, staff, parents and community members.

Together, we have achieved numerous milestones and overcome significant challenges, all while

maintaining a steadfast commitment to providing a world class education for our students — each of whom is empowered to go out and make a better world. That legacy is fostered in our classrooms by our inspiring educators and support staff.

Reflecting on these past seven years fills me with both pride and gratitude. Together as a community, we have funded construction projects to restore aged facilities through Measure II and passage of Measure I.

These investments prioritized the renovation/construction of our high school gymnasiums, performing arts centers and an Educational Options Center that will provide an innovative, flexible learning environment for the students who learn differently. I am grateful for the leadership of Todd Utikal and Bill Butler — as well as their team of volunteers. We

would not have these vital school improvements on the horizon without their passionate advocacy with the voters of Pleasanton.

I want to extend my appreciation for the members of several community groups who reached out to include me as part of their families. I will cherish memories of celebrating Dandiya with our Indian community, welcoming the lunar new year with our Chinese families, and standing with our Pleasanton Students Interscholar Action Council (SIAC) and other youths committed to making a difference inside and outside the classroom.

I am also grateful for our PTA leaders and friends at Pleasanton Partnerships in Education who



invest so much time and resources to support our teachers and students. I owe a specific debt of gratitude to my Rotary friends who stood by my side to support and encourage me during challenging times, as well as partnering to promote positive community activities.

While I am excited to embark on the next chapter of my life and focus on my role as a grandfather to three incredible young human beings, I will deeply miss the relationships that have enriched my life while living and working in the community. I am exceedingly grateful for the friendships I have developed, the memories we created together, and the invaluable lessons I have learned about myself and my role as a leader. I am better because of the trust, encouragement, and confidence invested in me by members of this community.

A few years back, the Board of Trustees and I collaborated in developing a succession plan in order to be prepared for this eventuality. This included establishing a role of deputy superintendent and subsequent intentional actions to be sure

the team was ready for this eventuality. I am confident that with the support of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Diolazo, the leadership team, and our faculty and staff will continue to invest in this organization with integrity, compassion, and a dedication to excellence.

Together, this Community of Character will inspire and empower future students to reach their fullest potential. You will also continue to inspire and empower one another. That is what strong, purposeful communities do.

Please know that while I may be leaving my role and responsibilities here in PUSD, I will forever remain a proud member of this extraordinary community of character. I hope to stay in touch with those of you who have walked alongside me during my time here in Pleasanton, and to hear of things still to come from our efforts. ■

Editor's note: David Haglund has served as superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District since July 2017. He submitted this Guest Opinion upon his announcement this week that he is stepping down from the district after the 2023-24 academic year.

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LETTERS

Nonprofit journalism

Nonprofit journalism, despite its noble intentions, sometimes falls short of being as user-friendly as it should be. Nonprofit newsrooms often bill themselves as saviors of journalism, but their practice of journalism doesn't align with their goals.

The most crucial aspect for any newsroom isn't just being "nonprofit" — it's about living up to the right values. Tim Hunt posted a blog recently, "Mayor Brown now tuned in to spending." There is no space in the finish of Tim's blog for reader commentary. That is an intentional action by the publisher because any commentary may be considered political.

How will this publication be an active participant in local elections to inform the community? There is no user-friendly means for the reader to participate in commentary. What value for the community is this nonprofit publication?

—Michael Austin

Stop airport expansion

Halt Livermore Airport expansion! End Livermore's bad-faith secret, non-public behind-the-scenes maneuvering. Any future airport plans are more than Livermore's sole decision; this would greatly impact Pleasanton, Dublin and the whole of the Tri-Valley area.

Our communities do not need or

want an increase in noise or air pollution. The airport greatly impacts our quality of life in Pleasanton. It is difficult to have our windows open because the noise of the airplanes is so very loud. Please think of the children and elderly with breathing issues. Please do not do this to the Tri-Valley.

Please stop this effort now!

—Teresa Basalyga

Thank you to supporters of PCAC's 'A Night in Paris'

Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council wishes to thank those who attended and supported "A Night in Paris" fundraiser on April 13. The profits will be used to continue our educational programs.

A special thanks goes to the events' sponsors Lynn and Joan Seppala, Wentz Vineyards, Community Health Education Foundation (CHEF), NCL, Jean King, IPAC, Inc, Insuperity HR Services, UNCLE Credit Union, The CoolTones Big Band, On the Vine Catering and Alameda County Supervisors Nate Miley and David Haubert.

Other community contributors, in-kind donors and local businesses who supported the fundraiser also helped to make the Parisian night one to remember. PCAC also wishes to thank Mayor Karla Brown who presented a special proclamation recognizing April as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month on behalf of the Pleasanton City Council at the event.

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council's mission for over 44 years as

a nonprofit is to encourage, support and promote the arts in Pleasanton schools and the local community to reflect our cultural diversity and inspire all. Visit PleasantonArts.org to learn more about our nonprofit.

Thank you for keeping the arts a vibrant part of our community.

—Kelly Cousins,
PCAC board president

An Evening with Paula Cole

We thoroughly enjoyed our evening with Paula Cole and so did the rest of the audience: she clearly has an enthusiastic and appreciative following!

We enjoyed the stories/intros between songs in which she shared bits of her past, career and insights into what led to her write each song, making each one more interesting. Her voice and style are reminiscent of Joni Mitchell. She had two very talented musicians accompanying her on bass, electric and acoustic guitars. I would definitely see her again! I was surprised the show wasn't sold out.

Thank you to you, the Weekly and the Bankhead for the tickets!

—Kathleen Hall

Spring into action

White Pony Express is committed to recovering and delivering surplus fresh food to ensure everyone has access to nutritious food choices. Neighbor helping neighbor is the cornerstone of their volunteer-powered model and is the most effective safeguard against hunger and

poverty. By sharing good food with our neighbors in need, WPE aims to build unity and a community where no one suffers from want when there is a means of aiding them.

WPE's Food Rescue Program operates seven days a week, rescuing a daily average of 10,000-plus pounds of high-quality, surplus, fresh food from over 75 local food outlets. This nutritious food is redistributed within 24 hours to 98 nonprofit partners who feed the most vulnerable individuals in our county. Through this work, they not only address food insecurity, but also health outcomes, the reduction of harmful greenhouse gasses, and learning capacity for students at 16 school sites.

This spring is about new beginnings and transformation at WPE with a move to new headquarters on the horizon. The new home will allow the organization to expand its services and efficiency, while providing a welcoming environment for the dedicated volunteers that are the heartbeat of the operation. The move will also increase their ability to store donated fresh food by 250%!

WPE's "Spring into Action" campaign is underway and all donations up to \$100,000 will be matched. WPE relies on individuals like you to ensure they can meet the increasing demand for fresh, healthy food among our highest need neighbors. Together we will ensure that everyone has access to the food their bodies need!

—Trish Heaney, communication and marketing manager,
White Pony Express

PCAC president Cousins wins 2024 Mayor's Award

'Art can be a way of connecting with ourselves and with each other'

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

If you live in the Tri-Valley and are involved in any of the arts in any sort of way, you might have at one point come across longtime Pleasanton resident Kelly Cousins.

Cousins has been involved with the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council for almost a decade as the president of the council's board of directors — she was also a chair member and officer for several years before that — but has also dedicated more than 33 years of volunteer time to the arts in the city and the Tri-Valley.

That significant contribution and her steadfast efforts to give students and community members a chance to pursue their artistic endeavors while also raising funds for art projects in Pleasanton are just some of the reasons Cousins was named the recipient of the 2024 Mayor's Award.

"Their focus has been on the development of partnerships among the local community groups and city agencies, to expand visual and performing arts opportunities for students and their families, as well as embrace our cultural diversity," Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown said during the April 11 Mayor's Award dinner. "Wherever the arts are in the Tri-Valley, you will find this person."

Cousins told the Weekly that while she did have a slight feeling that she was going to be presented with the award during the city's

annual Commission and Committee Recognition Dinner and Mayor's Award event at Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, she was still shocked when she heard the news.

"I was surprised and honored ... I never expected it," she said. "It's really quite overwhelming and it's also such an honor when you look at the people that have come before me and gotten the award."

Cousins first moved to Pleasanton in 1991 with her family and said she had always seen it as a place to invest in its unique character, charm and natural beauty.

Before starting her second career in the arts, Cousins also worked as an educational psychologist for 30 years both in private practice and in public education. But even during that time, she said she knew the value of art and even used it as a form of therapy for some of her patients.

"Art can be a way of connecting with ourselves and with each other," she said during her award acceptance speech. "Art is an important part of the human experience whether it be through music, dance, visual arts or literature. Its value is the connection art has with our emotions, the human spirit and our collective unconscious."

Brown highlighted Cousins' achievements while working at the PCAC such as the many projects the council installed throughout the city and the Pleasanton Unified School

District with the funding from Pleasanton's civic arts grants.

"Under their leadership on the PCAC, the organization's Arts in Action grants helped subsidize many PUSD school and classroom projects including a mural and garden project at Mohr Elementary School among others," Brown said. "PCAC also continued to provide nearly three decades of the Youth Excellence in Arts (YEA!) Awards for talented Pleasanton high school students."

But Cousins didn't just help implement public works of art throughout Pleasanton. She has also been a member of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Board of Directors for nearly 10 years and played an instrumental role in helping to plan Livermore Valley Arts' major gala fundraiser, Brilliance at the Bankhead, every year since 2016.

"The event features well known entertainers performing with the Livermore-Amador Symphony to help raise funds needed to support both the Bankhead Theater and Livermore's Bothwell Arts Center, as well as their educational, visual and cultural arts programing," Brown said.

During the pandemic, Brown said Cousins continued to bring donors to the Bankhead and helped secure the first major sponsor for the annual gala several years ago, which continued to donate over \$250,000 to this date to support local arts programs.



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Kelly Cousins (left) poses with Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown for a photo during the 2024 Mayor's Award event on April 11.

Cousins said that while she did appreciate the recognition, she wouldn't have been able to do everything that she has done for students, the district and the community had it not been for the help of the people around her.

"One doesn't work alone in their efforts to help make the community a better place to live and thrive," Cousins said during her speech. "My work with various organizations, nonprofits and groups was accomplished along with the inspiration and enthusiasm of others who share my goals and passion for our community."

She specifically thanked her husband, Jed, whom she said has been her constant supporter since day one.

She also said that her interest and ability to do the work she does both at the PCAC and at Livermore Valley Arts is not going away any time soon and she will continue to support the arts in the Tri-Valley for as long as she can.

"The arts is a way of communicating," Cousins told the Weekly. "It's so essential and so I will be either enjoying the arts or participating in promoting the arts, probably for the rest of my life." ■

Russian pianist Yakushev playing final DVFA concert of season

Saturday show will include tributes to Rachmaninoff, Gershwin, Mussorgsky

BY JEREMY WALSH

Del Valle Fine Arts is wrapping up its 44th season this weekend with a concert at the Bankhead Theater featuring renowned Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev.

The show on Saturday evening will serve to honor Sergei Rachmaninoff's 150th birthday and the 100th anniversary of "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin, according to DVFA officials.

"Yakushev, with many awards and honors to his credit, continues to

astound and mesmerize audiences at major venues on three continents," DVFA reps said. "In 2023-24, dozens of engagements bring Ilya from New York City to the West Coast for recitals, concertos and — with members of the renowned St. Lawrence String Quartet — chamber music."

A prizewinning pianist since the age of 12 in his native St. Petersburg, Yakushev has gone on to earn worldwide acclaim while performing on some of the best-known stages around the globe including Carnegie Hall, according to DVFA.

His concert program will include Mozart's "Fantasia in D minor", three preludes by Rachmaninoff, Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition". He also has put together a slideshow to accompany his Mussorgsky number featuring the artwork depicted in the music, DVFA reps said.

The concert is set for Saturday (April 27) at 7:30 p.m. at the Bankhead in downtown Livermore. For tickets and more information, go to livermorearts.org. ■



COURTESY DVFA

Russian pianist Ilya Yakushev is performing at the Bankhead Theater as part of the Del Valle Fine Arts series this Saturday.

LV Opera staging two classics in new season ahead

Popular Opera in the Vineyard fundraiser also returning this summer — twice

BY NICOLE GONZALES

Professional performing arts group Livermore Valley Opera has announced the lineup for its 33rd season, promising to deliver shows with comedy, drama and passion for audiences to enjoy.

The upcoming season will feature two classic productions, Gaetano Donizetti's "The Daughter of the Regiment" and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Don Giovanni" — with tickets set to go on sale next Wednesday (May 1).

All shows will be taking place at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

Kicking off the season, "The Daughter of the Regiment" is scheduled to run between Sept. 28 and Oct. 6.

LVO artistic director Erie Mills expressed her excitement for the upcoming production.

"The opera has some of the most wonderful music by Donizetti, it's charming and funny, and it has a very happy ending," Mills said. "The audience will smile through the entire opera. It's fun for all ages."

The two-act opera tells the tale of Marie, a baby found on a French battlefield and is raised as the "daughter"

of the 21st regiment. Marie's foster father and aunt have plans in mind for her to marry a prestigious soldier; however, she is drawn to follow her heart and be with the Tyrolean peasant Tonio.

"I am thrilled to bring 'The Daughter of the Regiment' to the Bankhead stage this season. Donizetti's masterpiece is overflowing with charm and humor," Mills said.

The production will star Veronique Filloux as Marie and Christopher Bozeka as Tonio.

With over 70 operas to his name, "The Daughter of the Regiment" stands as one of Donizetti's most beloved works, offering an engaging mix of romance and comedy for all ages.

"(This production) holds a special place in the hearts of opera lovers worldwide. Its endearing story of love and loyalty, coupled with Donizetti's enchanting score, promises an evening of pure delight," Mills added. "It is a masterpiece that transcends time."

And then in the new year, audiences can expect performances of "Don Giovanni" between March 1-9, 2025. To be sung in Italian with English supertitles at the Bankhead, the Mozart

piece delves into themes of love, mortality and the consequences of one's actions.

"Many consider this Mozart's greatest opera," Mills said of the story. "The drama is compelling and the music sublime. This cast will make it all look easy — and it is not."

Titus Muzi takes on the role of Don Giovanni, with Murrella Parton starring as Donna Ana.

"As we unveil our 33rd season lineup, I couldn't be more excited for what's in store," Mills said of the upcoming productions. "I have the utmost confidence in our talented cast and crew to bring these productions to life in ways that will exceed expectations. Their dedication, passion and artistry will shine brightly on stage, creating magical moments for our audiences."

In addition to the main stage productions, LVO is gearing up for its Opera in the Vineyard event at Garré Vineyard & Winery in Livermore. The fundraiser, with two installments this summer, will allow guests the chance to "escape to a world of music and merriment."

"There's a unique energy that comes from experiencing opera live," Mills explained. "It's a visceral, transformative experience that transports



COURTESY LVO

Christopher Bozeka will star as Tonio in Livermore Valley Opera's production of "The Daughter of the Regiment" at the Bankhead Theater.

you to another world and stirs the deepest emotions within. I invite everyone to join us for an unforgettable journey through music and storytelling."

Set against the picturesque backdrop of the vineyard, attendees can bask in the ambiance of live music, wine and camaraderie.

Scheduled for June 23 and Aug. 18, LVO said the events promise an unforgettable experience for opera enthusiasts and wine connoisseurs alike.

Tickets for the Opera in the Vineyard fundraisers are available for purchase at livermorevalleyopera.com. ■

Inaugural 'Craft Cocktail Competition' to benefit PCO

BY JEREMY WALSH

Supporters of local music programming — who are also of drinking age — will have the chance to sample libation creations from some of the area's best mixologists for a good cause next weekend in downtown Livermore.

The inaugural "Tri-Valley Craft Cocktail Competition" is a new fundraiser for Pacific Chamber Orchestra, supporting its main concerts at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore and the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church as well as its educational programs that introduce classic music to thousands of elementary school children every year.

"This will become a legacy annual event for the Tri-Valley and to support music in the schools and in the community is a double win for everyone," said Jake Fahnhorst, a member of the organizing committee and a Realtor with Keller Williams Tri-Valley, the event's lead sponsor.

Scheduled for next Saturday (May 4) from 4:30-7 p.m. in front of the Bankhead, the event will see more than 15 local bartenders showing off their best specially



COURTESY PCO

The Pacific Chamber Orchestra is gearing up for its latest concerts.

crafted, top-shelf cocktails alongside tasty bites from local restaurants, according to organizers. Attendees will sample the drinks in souvenir shot glasses provided by PCO.

On the line will be bragging rights — as well as cash prizes and trophies for top finishers — as judges will rank the beverages and attendees can vote for the People's Choice Award.

Bars with mixologists participating include Aloft Dublin, Altamont Beer Works, Azotea, Casa Orozco, Demitris, Hops and Sessions, Jonny on the Spot, Sons of Liberty, Sauced, The Fat Pigeon, The Last

Word and Patxi's Pizza, according to organizers.

Tickets for the cocktail showcase, which cost \$65 per person, are available online at tvc3.info.

The new fundraiser will come one weekend after PCO's latest concert series, set for this Saturday evening (April 27) at the church in Lafayette and a Sunday matinee (April 28) at 3 p.m. at the Bankhead.

The shows will feature Max Bruch's "Violin Concerto No. 1 in g minor" with violinist Livia Sohn, Felix Mendelssohn "Symphony No. 3 'Scottish'" and Fanny Mendelssohn's "Overture for Orchestra". ■

TAKE US ALONG

Returning home to UK with the Weekly: Hania Tempest and Vic Mosca pose with the Pleasanton Weekly in the town of Windsor, near London.

Vic and Hania had just returned to the United Kingdom after a fortnight holiday in the Tri-Valley, where they stayed with their very dear friends Dave and Mel of Pleasanton (and where they learned about the Take Us Along).

"Our holiday in Pleasanton was memorable and we thoroughly enjoyed spending time visiting the many amenities your lovely city has to offer, including the tastings in the many vineyards and wineries in the surrounding areas and taking many photos to show family and friends in the UK," Mosca told the Weekly. "The significance of submitting the photo of us in Windsor is because we met and became firm friends with Dave and his wife Mel when Dave worked in the UK for a while and he and Mel resided in Windsor."

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.





PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Foothill boys capture second EBAL volleyball title in a row

Also: Recent highlights from Amador Valley track and field

The Foothill boys' volleyball team clinched its first back-to-back East Bay Athletic League titles since the 2006 to 2007 seasons by beating Granada and Dougherty Valley last week.

In beating Granada 25-23, 25-20, 25-22, the eight Falcon seniors all played a big role.

Captains Casey Collins and Noah Mitzenmacher, along with Yun Bae, Carter Tsui, Caden Stedman, Ian Neuman, Jason Choi and Kayan Vohra, were all instrumental in the title run.

In a 25-22, 25-22, 25-19 win over Dougherty Valley, highlights came from Vohra (10 kills, 2 blocks), Bae (13 assists, 9 kills), Josh Salonga (21 assists, 5 service points) and Jeremy Sun (9 kills, 6 receptions).

Foothill swimming

The Falcons split the four meets with crosstown rival Amador Valley.

Foothill lost in JV girls' meet 90-79

and the varsity girls 99-67, but pulled out wins in the JV boys (102-65) and the varsity boys (97-73).

The individual highlight of the day came from Luka Mijatovic who broke the school record in the 200 individual medley, beating the old mark by 2.5 seconds.

Originally set by Jonah Cooper in 2018 at 1:53.16, Mijatovic set the new record with a time of 1:50.66.

Another big highlight was the girls' 200 and 400 freestyle relays achieving automatic qualifying times for the North Coast Section meet, with the 200 team only one second off consideration for the CIF State meet.

The quartet of Mckinley Scobie, Clare Alexander, Kristin Dur and Chloe Xu made up both relay teams.

Following are the swimmers who achieved best times in the meet: Khaled Aboutaleb, Mohamed Aboutaleb, Clare Alexander, Aritra Barua, Eli Chavez, Ashby Clark, Aadit Dasgupta, Ayan Dasgupta, Thatcher

Douwes, Valentina Diaz Uribe, Jessi Dowling, Lauren Eaton, Trey Elson, Jason Gadd, Briana Gavril, Sam Goebel, Amelia Greene, Sydney Hood, Mark Jacoban and Cameron Jones.

The list also includes Leila Kabouzi, Blake Kann, Connor Kann, Kaisa Kelly, Parnika Khatri, Elvis Lee, Kane Lee, Nathan Lee, Peyton Lew, Olivia Liu, Nick Maehr, Emerson Muise, Emee Ogden, Gabriella Ogden, Charlie Orr, William Peng, Niko Price, Nishika Rath, Emma Saroukhanoff, James Shirk, Addi Southern, Vatsal Srivastava, Evan Surr ridge, Natalie Williams, Chloe Xu, Richard Xu and Emma Yang.

Amador track and field

Here are some highlights from Amador track-and-field athletes from the last couple of weeks.

Bob Warren/Charlie Eaton Invitational: Sophomore Rachel Schmidt cleared 8 feet, 6 inches in the



COURTESY FOOTHILL HIGH

The Foothill boys' volleyball team won the EBAL title for the second straight season.

pole vault, putting her in a tie 10th on the Amador all-time list.

Arcadia Invitational: The boys' 4x800m team (Arran Gill Gulati, Jacob Camacho, Prithvij Rajesh, Tommy Hek) finished seventh out of 22 teams, turning in an 8:08.43. The time is No. 5 in Amador history.

AVHS Spring Fling: The boys' varsity finished first with 137 points, beating out second-place Dublin who had 111.

The girls' varsity and frosh/soph teams were fifth, with the boys' frosh/soph finishing second.

Nora Khansa's discus mark of 107-1 is ninth in school history and currently ranks sixth in all of NCS.

Amador swimming

The Dons swept all four meets against Granada the week of April 8.

The finals were varsity girls 90-76, varsity boys 107-63, JV girls 87-44 and JV boys 106-41.

The varsity girls were paced by

Rylee Hutchinson and Francesca Lin, both were double individual winners. Hutchinson took the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. Lin won the 200 free and the 500 free in 2:00.42 and 5:19.76.

The varsity boys were led by Evan Shackelford, who won the 50 free for the first time this season, with Alan Deng finishing second.

Oryan Liu won the 100 fly in an NCS automatic time of 52.29 and the 100 breaststroke in 1:00.54.

For the JV girls, Evelyn Roe had a great meet, winning the 200 free and 100 free. The JV boys started the meet out by doing a 1-2-3 sweep on the 200 free and never looked back. The sweep was led by JT Williams, Zaven Cornelius and Grant Montoya. ■

Editor's note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for Embarcadero Media Foundation's East Bay Division. To contact him about his Pleasanton Preps column, email acesmag@aol.com.

Dublin hires Napoleon Kaufman as head football coach

Retired Oakland Raiders RB also known for work as senior pastor in Livermore

BY DENNIS MILLER

In an absolute touchdown of a move, Dublin High School has hired a new football coach, bringing in former NFL running back Napoleon Kaufman to guide the program.

Not only is Kaufman a former professional football player, but he is a senior pastor at a local church and is known as a youth mentor.

I have always felt that a high school coach needs to be not only a coach but a mentor, as they have athletes going from kids to young adults.

Wins and losses are always a measuring stick but should never be the lone meter for success. If you can say a student-athlete is a better person for having played for a coach, then that is all a parent should ask for.

The East Bay Athletic League has had a history of that over the years, and it appears that the hiring of Kaufman fits it to a tee.

"One of the most rewarding experiences in my life has been working



COURTESY BISHOP O'DOWD

Napoleon Kaufman and his Bishop O'Dowd team celebrate winning the CIF State title in football.

with young athletes, inspiring them to reach their potential and showing them the beauty of teamwork, commitment, and perseverance," Kaufman said in a press release from the Dublin Unified School District last Friday.

"I enjoy helping young men and

women become better athletes and better human beings. Dublin High has a great tradition of athletics success and I hope to add to that legacy as the new head coach of Dublin High football," Kaufman added.

A two-time All-American

running back for the University of Washington, Kaufman played six seasons for the Oakland Raiders, began his coaching career in the Pleasanton Junior Football League, where he coached his three sons for nearly a decade, and later won a CIF State Title as the head coach

at Bishop O'Dowd High School in 2016. He is currently senior pastor of The Well Christian Community in Livermore and is an acclaimed speaker and youth mentor, DUSD officials noted

Kaufman is taking the reins at Dublin from Brandon Black, who is leaving the Gaels after five years as head coach to explore new challenges, according to DUSD.

"While we are sad to see Coach Black leave and want to thank him for his contributions to our school, we are excited for what lies ahead," Dublin High athletic director Tim Sbranti said. "Napoleon Kaufman brings a storied high school, college and professional career — and the experience that comes with it — to Dublin, as a coach, he led Bishop O'Dowd to a Division 5-AA state championship in 2016. As a person, he brings a commitment to community and his faith that I believe will have a positive influence on and off the field." ■

Editor's note: Dennis Miller is a contributing sports writer for the Pleasanton Weekly. This column originally appeared in Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a weekly sports e-newsletter published by Embarcadero Media Foundation.

Entertainment

READER'S THEATER GROUP

Performed with script in hand, the focus is on the written word. 1 p.m., April 26. Free. Pleasanton Senior Center.

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL YOUTH EDITION

A one-hour edition of the hit musical, specially tailored for young actors, features irresistible characters in this deep-sea pearl of a show. April 25-28. Tickets \$10. Amador Theater. Visit firehousearts.org.

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS PRESENTS ILYA YAKUSHEV

Ilya Yakushev has performed worldwide with famed orchestras and at such storied venues as Carnegie Hall and Davies Symphony Hall. This performance will honor Rachmaninoff's 150th Birthday and the 100th anniversary of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. 7:30 p.m., April 27. Tickets \$35-\$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

JAZZ AT INKLINGS Join this free jazz concert with the Matt Finders trio and vocalist Karen Magurth. Visit meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society. 6 p.m., April 27. 533 Main St., Pleasanton.

LIVIA SOHN AT THE BANKHEAD In this Pacific Chamber Orchestra concert be thrilled by the incomparable Livia Sohn who fills every note of the romantic Bruch

Violin Concerto with captivating purity and precision. 3 p.m., April 28. Tickets \$25-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

GIRLS NIGHT: THE MUSICAL Follow five friends as they visit their past, celebrate their present, and look to the future on a wild and hilarious night out, bursting with energy and packed with hits. 7:30 p.m., May 3. Tickets \$45-\$65. Visit livermorearts.org.

COMEDIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Comedians with Disabilities Act brings authentic and traditionally unheard voices to the forefront and shines a spotlight on a variety of disabled and outrageously funny comedians. 8 p.m., May 11. Tickets \$20. Visit firehousearts.org.

SOMETHING ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Join Valley Concert Chorale with a salute to Nat King Cole and the musical world of Walt Disney. 7:15 p.m., May 11. Resurrection Lutheran Church, Dublin. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

Shows & Exhibits

PLEASANTON ROSE SHOW Alameda and Contra Costa County residents can enter their home-grown roses for a chance to win. Registration

and admission are free. Exhibitor registration 8-10 a.m.; Event 2-5 p.m., May 11. Pleasanton Senior Center. Visit pleasantonroseshow.com/how-to-enter.

LIMITED EDITION CHAGALL PRINTS & SYMBOLIC ART

On display this spring at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery this exhibit significantly features twelve lithographs created by artist Marc Chagall in a stunning tribute to a dream of love, friendship and peace among all people. Free and open to the public. Thursdays through Sundays, 1-5 pm., through May 19. Bankhead Theater.

IMAGINATION EXPRESSED 2024

The Pleasanton Art League's annual showcase of recent works by artists in Pleasanton and the Tri-Valley is on display at the Museum on Main. Through May 11. Visit museumonmain.org.

FRESH WORKS XII ANNUAL JURIED EXHIBITION

The Harrington Gallery presents this incredible celebration of different artistic practices in this mixed media show which includes approximately 80 works. Through May 18. Visit firehousearts.org.

Talks

THEN & NOW LIVERMORE STORIES

Historian Alan Frank will give a presentation entitled "Livermore in the Wild Old Days" where he will

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Make Gloria your girl

If you're looking for some extra sunshine in your life, Gloria is your girl. She loves to snuggle and is wiggly and cute! She adores people and does well near other dogs. Gloria walks well on leash and is super fun to train on agility equipment. She cooperates so nicely, especially when offered delicious treats. She's a volunteer

favorite, and you will see why as she greets everyone with her happy dance. Meet Gloria at the East County Animal Shelter in Dublin. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue at tvar.org.

discuss Livermore historical events that are not likely to be found in history books. 7 p.m., April 30. Livermore Civic Center Library.

LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

In this Rae Dorrough Speaker Series installment, Aomawa Shields, an astronomer and astrobiologist, searches for exoplanets where life might exist by using computer models to calculate the kind of atmosphere they'd need to support it. 7:30 p.m., May 2. Tickets \$25-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org.

MENTAL HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

Sally M. Reis, Ph.D. will discuss "Using Strength-Based Pedagogy

to Engage All Students" in this free Alan Hu Foundation webinar. Learn about cutting-edge new research to address the academic, social, and emotional needs of high ability students with learning challenges. 5-6 p.m., May 7. Register by May 6 at alanhufoundation.org.

INTERFAITH INTERCONNECT RELIGION CHAT

This month's Religion Chat topic is "When bad things happen to good people: How does your faith/congregation help someone to recover following a significant loss, emergency, or tragedy?". 5 p.m., May 8. Lighthouse Center

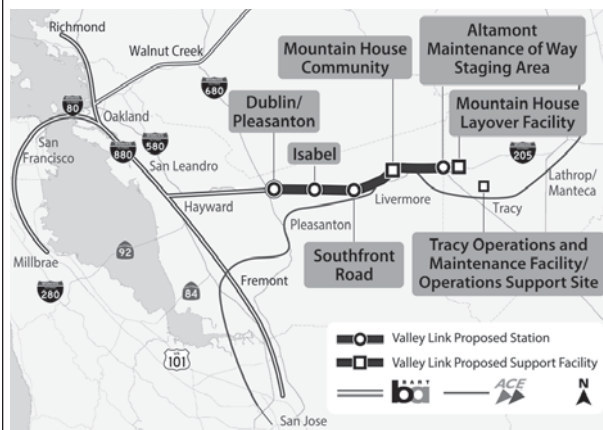
See **CALENDAR** on Page 19

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and Public Hearings for the Valley Link Rail Project

The Tri-Valley - San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (Authority) as Lead Agency is issuing this Notice of Availability (NOA) to advise other agencies and the public that a Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the proposed Valley Link Rail Project is available for review and comment. The SEIR, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), analyzes potential environmental effects associated with revisions to previously analyzed improvements included in the Valley Link Rail Project Final EIR approved by the Authority on May 12, 2021.

Proposed Project and Location: The Proposed Project would establish a new passenger rail service along a 22-mile corridor in Northern California between the existing Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station in Alameda County and the proposed Mountain House Community Station in San Joaquin County. The Proposed Project includes the construction and operation of four new stations: Dublin/Pleasanton Station; Isabel Station and Southfront Road Station in Livermore; and Mountain House Community Station. The Proposed Project would provide an all-day bi-directional passenger rail service at frequent intervals using zero-emission multiple unit vehicles. The alignment would be constructed within a combination of the existing I-580 freeway median, the existing transportation corridor owned by Alameda County (formerly Southern Pacific Transcontinental Railroad alignment), existing Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) adjacent to westbound I-580, and new ROW to be acquired for the Proposed Project.



Areas of Potential Impact: The Draft SEIR has determined that construction and operation of the project could result in potentially significant impacts to aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, paleontological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, noise and vibration, and transportation and traffic. However, mitigation measures described in the Draft SEIR would reduce these potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels.

The Authority is seeking comments from agencies, stakeholders, and the public regarding the environmental effects analyzed in the SEIR. The Draft SEIR is available for review on the project website: www.getvalleylinked.com. Copies of the Draft SEIR are also available for review at the following locations:

Livermore Public Library
1188 S. Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA

Mountain House Branch Library
201 East Main Street
Mountain House, CA

Public Hearings: Open Forum Public Hearings will be held in-person at two locations in the Project corridor:

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
Robert Livermore Community Center
4444 East Avenue,
Livermore, CA

Thursday, May 9, 2024 - 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
Mountain House Community Services District
251 E. Main Street,
Mountain House, CA

At these hearings, attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions, learn more about the Proposed Project, and provide written and verbal comments that will become part of the public record.

One Virtual Public Hearing for the project will also be conducted:

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 - 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The Virtual Public Hearing will provide an informal opportunity for attendees to learn about the Proposed Project and ask questions. However, official comments must be submitted in writing by mail, email, or through the online comment submission form on the project website. Please visit www.getvalleylinked.com to learn how to join the virtual hearing and to access additional project information.

If you will require language assistance services at these hearings, please call (925) 667-4013, 48 hours prior to the date and time of the hearings.

Written Comments: Written comments on the Valley Link Rail Project SEIR will be accepted until 5:00 PM on June 6, 2024. Please send written comments to:

Tri-Valley - San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority
2600 Kitty Hawk Road,
Suite 103
Livermore, CA 94551

Your comments may also be sent by email to comments@valleylinkrail.com (please include "Valley Link Project" in the subject heading), or through the online comment submission form provided on the project website: www.getvalleylinked.com.

For Further Information: Visit our project website at www.getvalleylinked.com or contact us by email at comments@valleylinkrail.com and include "Valley Link Project" in the subject heading.

Si necesitará servicios de asistencia con el idioma en estas reuniones, llame al (925) 667-4013, 48 horas antes de la fecha y hora de la reunión.

如果您在这些会议上需要语言协助服务，请在会议日期和时间前 48 小时致电 (925) 667-4013。

إذا كنت ستحتاج إلى خدمات المساعدة اللغوية في هذه الاجتماعات ، يرجى الاتصال 667-4013 (925) قبل 48 ساعة من تاريخ ووقت الاجتماع

Nếu bạn sẽ yêu cầu dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ tại các cuộc họp này, vui lòng gọi (925) 667-4013, 48 giờ trước ngày và giờ của cuộc họp.

이러한 회의에서 언어 지원 서비스가 필요한 경우 회의 날짜 및 시간 48시간 전에 (925) 667-4013 으로 전화하십시오.

Kung mangangailangan ka ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika sa mga pulong na ito, mangyaring tumawag sa (925) 667-4013, 48 oras bago ang petsa at oras ng pulong.

Public Notices

**SMART SHADES COMPANY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605478

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

1.) SMART SHADES COMPANY, located at 6635 DUBLIN BLVD B2, DUBLIN, CA 94568, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 2700 SALISBURY WAY, SAN RAMON CA, 94582.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

MOHIT ADIANI
2700 SALISBURY WAY
SAN RAMON CA, 94582

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 10 2024. (PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

**ROMO'S CLEAN WASH
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605609

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

1.) Romo's Clean Wash, located at 7279 Newcastle Lane, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: PO BOX 2212, Dublin, CA 94568.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

JOSE ROBELO
PO BOX 2212
Dublin, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/10/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 16 2024. (PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

**JUICE AND JAVA EXPRESS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 604960

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

1.) JUICE AND JAVA EXPRESS, located at 55 W ANGELA ST #101 PLEASANTON, CA 94566, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

NOURISHEATS BRANDS LLC
4271 HEALDSBURG WAY
DUBLIN, CA 94568

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/19/2023

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 20 2024. (PLW Apr 19, 26, May 3 and 10, 2024)

**A CLEAR WAY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605391

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

1.) A Clear Way, located at 3803 Muirwood Drive 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):

AKFDESIGN LLC
3803 Muirwood Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 4/1/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 08 2024. (PLW Apr 19, 26, May 3 and 10, 2024)

**MLFOX, LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605669

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

1.) MLFOX, LLC, located at 9104 Longview Drive, 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):

MLFOX, LLC

9104 Longview Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 13, 2022

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 18 2024. (PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

**PRIMED 4 COLLEGE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605105

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

1.) PRIMED 4 COLLEGE, located at 1227 Hampel St. #1, Oakland, CA 94602, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

APRI MEDINA
1227 Hampel St. #1
Oakland, CA 94602

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 26 2024. (PLW Apr 19, 26, May 3 and 10, 2024)

**KLASSY THOUGHTS LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 604236

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

1.) Klassy Thoughts LLC, located at 6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 307, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 3819 Vineyard Ave Apt 86, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

KLASSY THOUGHTS LLC
6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 307
Pleasanton, CA 94588

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 26 2024. (PLW Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

**JUNBI LIVERMORE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 604992

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

1.) JUNBI LIVERMORE, located at 3046 W JACK LONDON BLVD, LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 11040 BOLLINGER CANYON RD STE E#450, SAN RAMON, CA 94582.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

HAPPY DRAGONS, LLC
11040 BOLLINGER CANYON RD STE E#450
SAN RAMON, CA 94582

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 21 2024. (PLW Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

**CASTRO GARDENS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605444

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

1.) Castro Gardens, located at 3636 Castro Valley Blvd STE 3, Castro Valley, CA, 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Joint Venture.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

MAX MORRIS
2516 San Carlos Ave
Castro Valley, CA 94546

KAITZ PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC
774 Mays Blvd STE 10 PMB 143
Incline Village, NV 89451

NEVADA
CAROLYN CALIGIURI
3636 Castro Valley Blvd STE 3

Castro Valley, CA, 94546
PATRICIA PASCOE

3636 Castro Valley Blvd STE 3
Castro Valley, CA, 94546

GWENDOLYN MORRIS
3636 Castro Valley Blvd STE 3
Castro Valley, CA, 94546

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/18/1973

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on April 09 2024. (PLW Apr 19, 26, May 3 and 10, 2024)

**SPOILED BEAUTY GLAM LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 604235

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

1.) Spoiled Beauty Glam LLC, located at 6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 307, Pleasanton, CA 94588 Alameda County. Mailing Address: 3819 Vineyard Ave., Apt 86, Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

SPOILED BEAUTY GLAM LLC
6200 Stoneridge Mall Road, Suite 307
Pleasanton, CA 94588

CALIFORNIA

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 26 2024. (PLW Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

**ELEMENT DENTAL CARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 605118

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

1.) Element Dental Care, located at 7137 Dublin Blvd #A, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 4639 MARGARET ADELE LANE, Tracy, CA 95377

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

RAJWANT KAUR BHATTI DENTAL
CORPORATION
4639 MARGARET ADELE LANE
Tracy, CA 95377

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 26 2024. (PLW Apr 19, 26, May 3 and 10, 2024)

**E-Z CARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**
File No.: 604265

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

1.) E-Z CARE, located at 2891 Diavila Court 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):

HARMONY SUPPORT SERVICES LLC
2891 Diavila Court
Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: 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 February 26 2024. (PLW Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV072226

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Maya Kalyan and Sharath Rathinakumar filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

DEV SHARATH to DEV M SHARATH

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that

includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 06/21/2024, 9:30 a.m., Alameda Superior Court Rene C. Davidson Courthouse Department 1B of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon Street, 2nd Floor, 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: 04/17/2024

THOMAS NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 23CV037469

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Shiraz Eaton filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SHIRAZ EINAV EATON to SHIRAZ HAREL

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 06/21/2024, 9:30AM, Dept 1B 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: 06/12/2023

Sandra Bean
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV071473

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Ernest Marcelin Roberts filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ERNEST MARCELIN ROBERTS to ERNEST MARCELLIN ROBERTS

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/31/2024, 9:30 a.m., Dept. 1B of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon 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: 04/15/2024

Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Apr 26, May 3, 10 and 17, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV069302

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Hyun Woo Nam filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

KYUHYEON NAM to MAY KYUHYEON NAM

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that

includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/28/2024, 10:00 a.m., Dept. 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA, 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 03/29/2024

Thomas I. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Apr 12, 19, 26 and May 3, 2024)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
WILLARD E. JOHNSON, AKA WILLARD EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED
Case No.: 24PR069585

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of WILLARD E. JOHNSON, AKA WILLARD EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: LISA J ENNIS in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: LISA J ENNIS 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 May 10 2024 at 9:45 AM in Dept. 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley CA 94704.

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

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

Petitioner in Pro Per:
Lisa J Ennis
522 London Street
San Francisco CA 94112
415-608-0279
(PLW Apr 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

KYUHYEOK NAM to MATTHEW KYUHYEOK NAM

KYUHOON NAM to HOONIE KYUHOON NAM

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/28/2024, 10:00 a.m., Dept. 14 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA, 94612.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 03/29/2024

Thomas I. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Apr 12, 19, 26 and May 3, 2024)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
WILLARD E. JOHNSON, AKA WILLARD EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED
Case No.: 24PR069585

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of WILLARD E. JOHNSON, AKA WILLARD EDWARD JOHNSON, DECEASED. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: LISA J ENNIS in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: LISA J ENNIS 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 May 10 2024 at 9:45 AM in Dept. 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Berkeley CA 94704.

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

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

Petitioner in Pro Per:
Lisa J Ennis
522 London Street
San Francisco CA 94112
415-608-0279
(PLW Apr 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

Continued on next page

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

KEANTE JAMES HOYETT
Case No.: 24PR062900

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

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

The Petition for Probate requests that: DELICIA WHATLEY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 12 2024 at 9:45am in 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther king jr way Berkeley ca 94704.

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

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

Petitioner in Pro Per:
DeLicia Whatley
600 central Ave
Alameda, ca 94501
415-960-5125
(PLW Apr 19, 26 and May 3, 2024)

SUMMONS Case No. 23CV051197

(CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (A VISO AL DEMANDADO):

MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS NOMINEE FOR UNCLE CREDIT UNION; JAMES MILES GOTTFORCHT; SUSAN GAIL GOTTFURCHT; GEORGE G. PITARRA JR. AKA GEORGE G. PITARRA; ROBYN ELAINE ASHLEY AND DOES 1 THROUGH 40 INCLUSIVE

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Matadors Community Credit Union
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond Within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp),

your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Alameda County Superior Court 1220 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is

(El nombre, la dirección y el numero de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Alana B. Anaya 195758 Anaya Law Grou 2629 Townsgate Rd. Suite 140 (805) 250-9222 Westlake Village, CA 91361

DATE (Fecha): 11/14/2023

Clerk, by D. Franklin, Deputy (Secretario) (Adjunto)

(PLW Apr 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

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

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm. Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/ For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR

Continued from Page 17

for Spiritual Living, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Visit [Interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com](mailto:interfaith.interconnect@gmail.com).

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Creating Pollinator Corridors with Native California Plants is the subject of this meeting where Carol Garberson will discuss how increasing native plant biodiversity in gardens and other landscapes will provide food and nectar resources for a variety of native pollinators. 6-8 p.m., May 9. Crosswinds Church. Visit lavgc.org.

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

Farmers' Markets

PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET
The Pleasanton Farmers' Market

is Saturday year-round featuring vendors with seasonal fruits and vegetables, plus artisan goods. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. W. Angela St.

LIVERMORE THURSDAY FARMERS' MARKET The Livermore Thursday Night Farmers' Market is 4-8 p.m. at Carnegie Park with over 60 vendors. Rain or shine. 2155 3rd St.

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

Food & Drink

DOWNTOWN PLEASANTON WINE STROLL Pleasanton's Annual Wine Stroll will turn various downtown locations into tasting rooms where guests will have the opportunity to sample wine from local wineries paired with tasty bites. Live artists and musicians will perform throughout Main Street. 5-8 p.m., May 4. Tickets \$45. Visit pleasantondowntown.net.

PACIFIC CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CRAFT COCKTAIL COMPETITION Pacific Chamber Orchestra (PCO) presents the first-ever Tri-Valley Craft Cocktail Competition, in front of the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, benefitting PCO's in-school education programming and main concerts. 4:30-7 p.m., May 4. Visit tvc3.info.

LIVERMORE VALLEY CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL The 8th annual Livermore Valley Craft Beer Festival returns to the athletic field at Las Positas College, home of the event beneficiary, the LPC Fire Service Technology program. The festival includes NorCal breweries, local food vendors, live bands and demonstrations by firefighting students. 1-5 p.m., May 11. Visit lvcfb.com/beer-festival.

LIVERMORE VALLEY UNCORKED SHOWCASE Tri-Valley Conservancy presents its 15th Annual Livermore Valley Uncorked Showcase where guests can sample a award-winning Livermore Valley AVA wines, complemented by cuisine. 5:30 p.m., May 16. Bella Rosa Event Center at Garré Vineyard & Winery. Visit trivalleyconservancy.org.

Fundraiser

PLEASANTON RUN FOR EDUCATION

The 12th annual Pleasanton Run for Education offers 5K, 10K and 2 Mile distances. Presented by Workday, this is Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation's (PPIE) largest fundraiser of the year. 8-11 a.m., April 28. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

THE MT. DIABLO IRIS SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW

The annual Mt. Diablo Iris Society spring show and plant fundraiser is a judged show of many colorful varieties featuring flower arrangements, a demonstration and a photo contest. Free. 1-5 p.m., April 27. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 28. Alden Lane Nursery.

GARDEN SYMPHONY TOUR This fundraiser for the Livermore-Amador Symphony and the Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club includes beautiful gardens and lovely music. 1-5 p.m., May 4. Tickets \$40. Visit livermoreamadorsymphony.org.

Volunteer

LIVERMORE COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

Community Service Day provides an opportunity for residents to participate in a variety of projects spanning over 30 volunteer sites throughout the city including park clean-ups, fence painting, tree planting and beautification efforts. May 4. Visit livermoreca.gov/csd.

VOLUNTEER AT OPEN HEART KITCHEN

Volunteers at Open Heart Kitchen help create a more food secure future in the Tri-Valley. Visit openheartkitchen.org/volunteer.

Employment

Safeway Inc. hiring Sr. Product Manager/ Fulfillment in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute. Reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$185K-208,884/yr. Email resume: TA.Applications@albertsons.com Attn: P. Ang. Ref# 0409AS

Safeway Inc. hiring Software Engineer V/ Loyalty & Digital M in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute. Reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$151,650-204,506/yr. Email resume: TA.Applications@albertsons.com Attn: M. Varona. Ref# 0409SY

Principal Scientist for Roche Molecular Systems, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Up to 10% domestic & int'l travel, fully reimbursed. Telecommuting permitted up to 1 day/wk. Req: Master's in Biochem, Biotech, Molecular Bio, or rtd + 3 yrs exp (or Bachelor's + 5 yrs). Expected salary range for position based on primary loc in CA, is \$152,208- \$175,968/yr. Actual pay w/in range determined based on exp, qualifications, geographic loc & other job-rtd factors permitted by law. Discretionary annual bonus may be avail based on individual & Co. performance. Position qualifies for benefits detailed at Benefits (<https://roche.ehr.com/default.aspx?CLASSNAME=splash>). Apply: <http://applyroche.com/202404-108705> (Job ID: 202404-108705)

Safeway Inc. hiring Technical Lead/ Loyalty & Digital M in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute. Reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$172,349-211,458/yr. Email resume: TA.Applications@albertsons.com Attn: R. Samonte. Ref# 0410SS

IT Professionals:

Grid Dynamics Holdings Inc. located in San Ramon, CA seeks F/T Senior Software Engineer (remote, \$166,358/yr), Software Engineer (remote, \$147,368/yr), Staff Big Data Engineer (hybrid-remote within normal commuting distance of company HQ, \$179,670-195k/yr), Software Engineer (may allow for remote, \$125k-\$145k/yr), Software Architect (\$160k-\$180k/yr), Senior Big Data Engineer (may involve travel to company HQ 1x a year, may allow for remote, \$166,358-186k/yr), Senior Staff Data Scientist (may allow for remote, \$151,736/yr), Site Reliability Engineer (may allow for remote, \$110-\$130k/yr), Senior Site Reliability Engineer (may allow for remote, \$181,272-\$195k/yr), Delivery Manager (may allow for remote, \$150-\$170k/yr). For all openings: job may involve travel to or relocation to anticipated or unanticipated locations across the US, including client sites and Grid Dynamics' offices throughout the US and/or company HQs. Apply at jobs@gridynamics.com.

HR Manager (Pleasanton, CA). Administer HR policies, procedures, & practices across the organization. \$129,780 to \$165,000/yr, DOE. Send CV & cvr ltr to barbara.gonzales@gocheetah.com or Barbara Gonzales, Cheetah Technologies, Inc. d/b/a Cheetah, 5675 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, CA 94566 w/in 30 days.

Safeway Inc. hiring Principal Product Manager/ Catalog & Selection in Pleasanton, CA. May telecommute reports to Pleasanton. Must have legal right to work in US. EOE. Subj. to bckgrnd check. \$207,900-260K/yr. Email resume: TA.Applications@albertsons.com Attn: P. Ang. Ref# 0408SS

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising. If you wish to learn more about the employment advertising options, please visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

express

Sign up today at
PleasantonWeekly.com/express



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES / PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KRISTIN BROWN

SPRING PREVIEW 2024

Real Estate

Pleasanton markets welcome spring by heating up

Buyer enthusiasm for homeownership outweighs interest rate concerns, raising property prices again

BY DAVID STARK

Buyers were willing to compete and pay a premium for homeownership in Pleasanton in the first few months of 2024.

During 2023, homebuyers were faced with mortgage interest rates significantly higher than previous years. They responded by making less aggressive offers on homes for sale which, for the first time in almost a decade, drove down sales prices.

According to the California Association of Realtors, mortgage interest rates peaked at more than 7.5% during October 2023. Mortgage rates during the first quarter of 2024 are now hovering in the high 6% range. These slightly lower rates compared with 2023 are resonating with buyers eager to call Pleasanton home.



David Stark

Buyer enthusiasm for homeownership in Pleasanton during the first quarter of 2024 outweighed concerns about interest rates. The median sales price for a single-family detached home in Pleasanton jumped from \$1.4 million in January to \$1.9 million during March.

"I've not seen any drop in prices,

no lowball offers or anything like that. So, it's strong," said Barbara Clemons, 2024 president of the Bay East Association of Realtors.

The last time prices approached, or exceeded, this amount was during March 2022 when mortgage interest rates were in the high 3% range. Further evidence that buyers are willing to pay a premium in Pleasanton.

Potential buyers shopping for a home in Pleasanton so far this year haven't had many choices. The number of single-family detached homes for sale during the first quarter of 2024 was off the pace compared with the same period during 2023.

High prices and limited choices didn't appear to faze some buyers who made purchase offers quickly. A single-family detached home was on the market in Pleasanton for an average of 16 days during March, compared with 18 days during the same period last year.

Clemons has advice for both buyers and sellers in Pleasanton. For buyers, Clemons said, "The market is still really good; I would say get in sooner rather than later because it's heating up."

Asked how a buyer, faced with limited choices and high prices, can become a homeowner in Pleasanton, Clemons suggested, "Buyers can't really cut corners. That's why they need

a trusted Realtor to help them walk through the process and make sure they have a successful transaction."

For sellers, Clemons shared that even with the current market conditions in Pleasanton, a seller should consider making improvements before putting their home on the market. "The homes that get the best

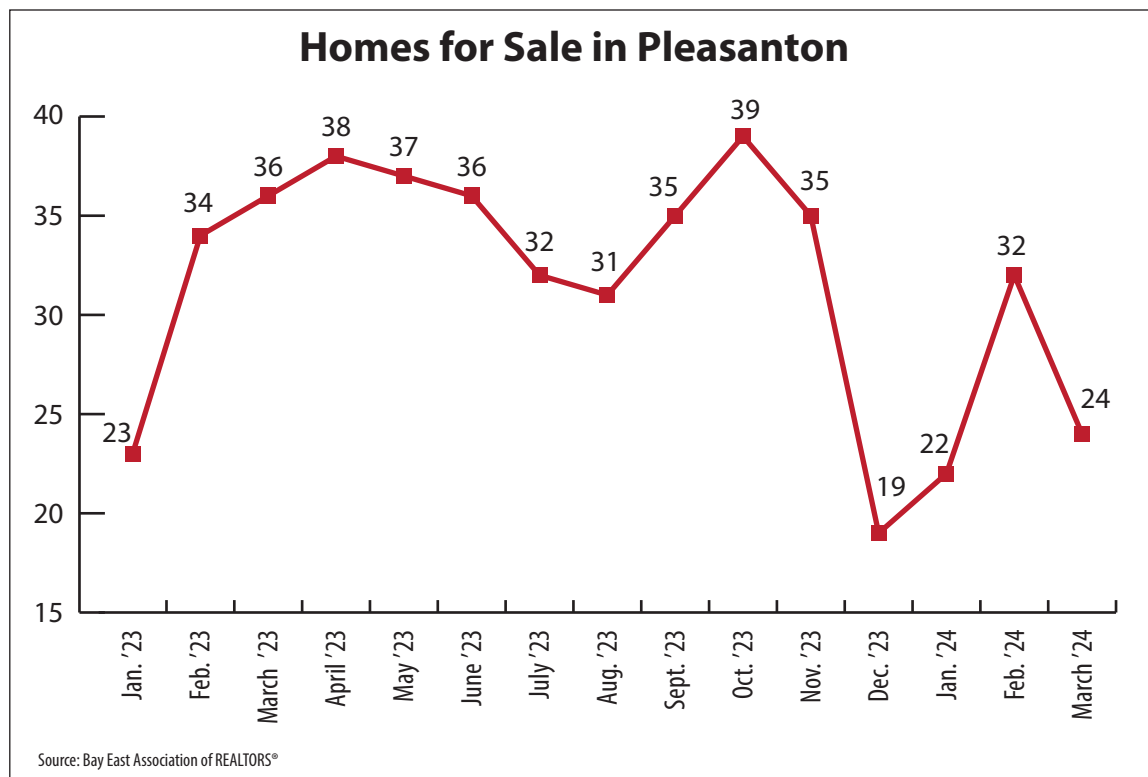
prices are the ones that are fixed up or staged because people want a turnkey home if possible," Clemons said. "Get it in shape to be sold."

Clemons had another suggestion for sellers that may help buyers, as well: concessions.

"Sellers are making a few concessions with buyers. Sometimes they

are assisting with the down payment or they're helping with flooring or painting or something like," Clemons said. "It's a negotiable area and sellers may be more flexible in that area." ■

Editor's note: David Stark is chief public affairs and communications officer for the Bay East Association of Realtors, based in Pleasanton.



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In Pleasanton Valley, Pleasanton
Sold at \$1,700,000

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COMPASS

First two phases of homes in City Village project sell out

Developer announces 53 sales so far in mixed-use development in San Ramon's Bishop Ranch

By JEANITA LYMAN

A large, new housing development in San Ramon has attracted the project's first round of home buyers, with developers announcing a sellout of the initial two phases of sales as deals on the homes begin closing this month.

The 404-unit City Village project that has been under construction since January 2022 has garnered 53 buyers so far, according to an announcement from SummerHill Homes on April 15. The milestone marks the next step in the creation of the large-scale mixed use project seeking to increase the city's housing inventory and serve as part of a reimagined vision for the sprawling Bishop Ranch neighborhood that previously served primarily as office space.

"These first homeowners represent the beginning of a vibrant community that will seamlessly blend housing, amenities and job opportunities — a key piece of fulfilling our vision of the future of Bishop Ranch," said Alex Mehran, Jr., president and CEO of Sunset Development Company, which owns Bishop Ranch. "We celebrate these homeowners as their

presence underscores our commitment to shaping San Ramon into a thriving downtown for generations to come."

According to officials from SummerHill Homes, a majority of the first buyers of the new homes — 80% — are first-time homebuyers, many of whom are from the East Bay and seeking to establish more permanent roots and transition from renting.

"The remaining 20% combines empty-nesters downsizing from neighboring East Bay cities and second-home buyers who frequently travel to the area," SummerHill officials said in last week's announcement.

One of those new homeowners is ShanShan Huang, who praised the project's location and the buying process in last week's announcement.

"We knew City Village was home for me and my husband," Huang said. "We fell in love with the design, location to shopping centers, parks and proximity to schools. The City Village sales team has made the whole process so pleasurable."

With the first two rounds of homes put on the market having sold out, the third round is set to be



COURTESY SUNSET DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

The third phase of home sales for the 404-unit City Village project, which will include attached three-story townhomes along with detached rowhomes and single-family houses, is set to begin this summer following sellouts of the first two phases of sales.

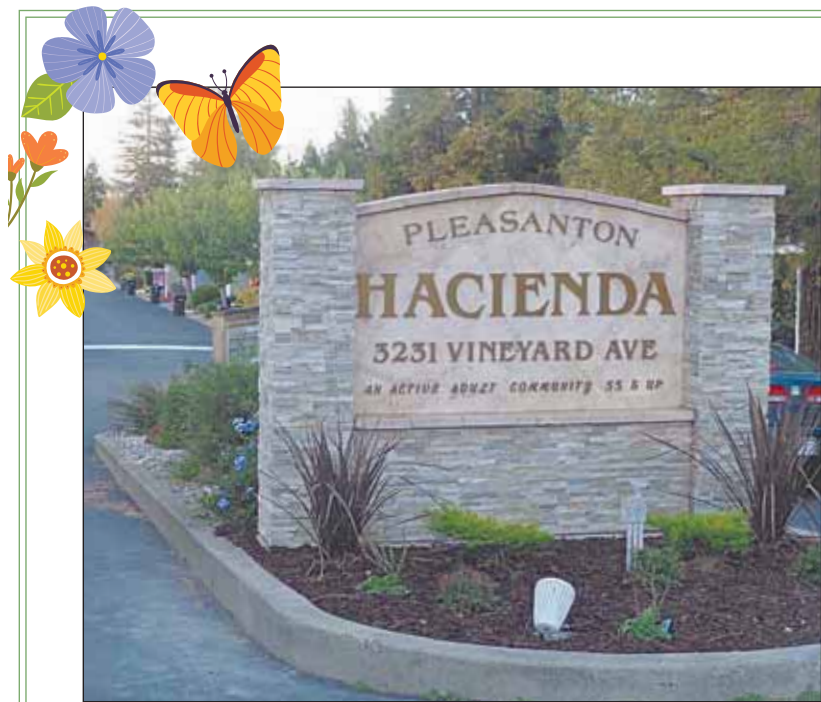
released this summer, according to SummerHill officials, consisting of detached three-story rowhomes, attached three-story townhomes, and detached single-family houses.

The interest list for the next

phase of sales so far exceeds 3,700 people, SummerHill officials said, with close to 150 potential buyers having been pre-approved.

"These first home sales mark the start of something truly special at

City Village, and we are thrilled to see our vision for this new community in San Ramon come to life, one home at a time," said Chris Neighbor, SummerHill's president and CEO. ■



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2 story built in 2000

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COMPASS

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SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Jan. 16-Feb. 9)

Total sales reported: 12

Lowest sale reported: \$440,000

Highest sale reported: \$4,800,000

Average sales reported: \$1,677,083

Livermore (Jan. 16-Feb. 9)

Total sales reported: 18

Lowest sale reported: \$439,000

Highest sale reported: \$1,905,000

Average sales reported: \$1,185,055

Dublin (Jan. 16-Feb. 9)

Total sales reported: 16

Lowest sale reported: \$680,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,530,000

Average sales reported: \$1,237,062

Sunol (Jan. 16-Feb. 9)

Total sales reported: 1

Lowest sale reported: \$5,400,000

Highest sale reported: \$5,400,000

Average sales reported: \$5,400,000

San Ramon (March 4-29)

Total sales reported: 27

Lowest sale reported: \$620,000

Highest sale reported: \$3,125,000

Average sales reported: \$1,413,333

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Jan. 16 to Feb. 9 for Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and Sunol, and March 4-29 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

3226 Burgundy Drive Martin Living Trust to S. & S. Venkataraman for \$1,550,000

645 Oak Circle S. & M. Solomon to J. & A. Sivaraman for \$1,635,000

6474 Paseo Santa Maria P. Bovaird to P. & M. Dorai for \$2,370,000

750 Pietronave Lane Proudfoot Trust to M. & P. Desale for \$2,550,000

1843 Sannita Court Bolton Trust to P. Wang for \$4,800,000

2267 Segundo Court #2 S. McMahon to M. Rapparini for \$567,000

3509 Valenza Way T. & S. Patel to R. & S. Simhadri for \$3,100,500

298 Birch Creek Drive A. Eberwein to Y. & V. Tiwari for \$743,000

7758 Creekside Drive Helping Homes Ca LLC to S. & A. Sundaramurthy for \$1,050,000

8160 Ensenada Drive #1 N. Munoz to Rod Soosan 2007 Trust for \$440,000

2240 Segundo Court #2 G. Carlucci to M. Anaya for \$570,000

3130 Washoe Way Byron Family Trust to V. Vyas for \$750,000

Livermore

560 Dovecote Lane #4 K. Kroll to Burchfield Living Trust for \$950,000

164 Heligan Lane #12 E. Andres to M. Poon for \$775,000

610 South K Street Souvercaze Family Trust to Dillard Family Trust for \$1,000,000

916 Megan Road A. Bati to A. & N. Srivastava for \$1,290,000

4749 Nicol Common #105 P. & N. Rodriguez to D. & L. Frock for \$439,000

140 Selby Lane #13 S. Lewis to Hall Living Trust for \$796,000

1877 Altamar Way J. Massey to F. & S. Codandam for \$1,180,000

1812 Blackwood Common Chang Family Trust to Denardi Trust for \$1,100,000

4091 Camrose Avenue R. & J. Campbell to V. & M. Skowron for \$1,840,000

5832 Elder Circle Cullen Trust to K. & S. Vajapey for \$1,750,000

873 South G Street Boote Family Trust to Denardi Trust for \$1,200,000

1632 Sunset Drive L. & K. Avery to M. & M. Joshi for \$975,000

302 Tanager Road Teman Living Trust to Pankaj Trust for \$1,470,000

88 Tourmaline Avenue Bengé Family Trust to B. & M. Patel for \$1,905,000

849 Tranquility Circle #12 M. Chin to A. Patel for \$831,000

1497 Vancouver Way J. Deng to D. & M. Shukla for \$1,430,000

5631 Woodrose Way C. Christian to K. & B. Brown for \$1,500,000

336 Yosemite Drive D. Saulovich to N. & M. Cui for \$900,000

Dublin

7197 Amador Valley Boulevard C. Castain to Little Hearts Montessori Preschool for \$1,300,000

5566 Barrel Court J. & Y. Kim to M. & H. Gatla for \$1,100,000

4314 Clarinbridge Circle V. & N. Thakkar to R. & A. Paler for \$805,000

3420 Finnian Way #319 Y. & K. Arthurs to E. Ng for \$728,000

11895 Flanagan Court C. & V. Pediglorio to G. Clinton for \$680,000

4857 Mangrove Drive #97 Trujillo Trust to S. & V. Waghmode for \$950,000

4526 Pisano Terrace Z. Li to S. & D. Kashyap for \$1,778,500

4851 Valerio Street Caos Family Trust to L. & S. Garikipati for \$2,065,000

3730 Branding Iron Place Tilchen Living Trust to S. Galinato for \$915,000

7630 Carlow Way B. & R. Barnes to J. & S. Brink for \$1,240,000

2855 Cathedral Rock Way Lam & Kwok Family Trust to Battu-Maddineni Trust for \$2,530,000

5501 De Marcus Boulevard #431 H. & R. Khan to P. & P. Saraiya for \$825,000

5966 Lombard Street M. & F. Rakotomalala to V. & N. Samineni for \$1,480,000

3360 Maguire Way #420 Sutton Family Trust to M. & J. Yoon for \$815,000

6527 Maple Drive Robinson Trust to M. & M. Nasr for \$1,111,500

7426 Stagecoach Road Chapman Living Trust to V. & S. Cheemakurthi for \$1,470,000

Sunol

7785 Laguna Heights Court I. & U. Guner to Blacklab LLC for \$5,400,000

San Ramon

104 Compton Circle #A A. Baptista to T. Fitzsimmons for \$630,000

922 Lynn Court Collins Trust to C. & Y. Zhang for \$1,720,000

1222 Mateo Miller Circle Toll West Coast LLC to L. & M. Mutsuddi for \$1,800,000

626 Norris Canyon Terrace Kwan Family Trust to D. Hill for \$710,000

204 Riverland Court A. Karra to Appaji Trust for \$2,400,500

785 Watson Canyon Court #146 H. Li to K. Mohankumar for \$686,000

9025 Alcosta Boulevard #251 L. Jin to S. Chang for \$620,000

25 Broadmoor Court Lopez Trust to S. & S. Kolhe for \$1,510,000

3210 Browntail Way K. Mani to C. & S. Shah for \$1,600,000

3112 Cedarwood Loop Bodapati Trust to P. & P. Mendki for \$1,300,000

26 Connick Court Asborn 2006 Trust to M. & K. Chee for \$2,550,000

2113 North Donovan Way S. Faltas to G. & S. Basavarajappa for \$1,440,000

2863 Fountainhead Drive Pickard Living Trust to Y. & R. Hansen for \$860,000

678 Greylyn Drive Lechner Trust to Y. & C. Xiao for \$1,670,000

913 Joree Lane C. & G. Wong to P. & H. Chavan for \$1,165,000

2720 Marsh Drive Y. Giwin to M. Mariella for \$1,758,000

1246 Mateo Miller Circle Toll West Coast LLC to X. & D. Johnson for \$1,818,500

218 Milo Place M. & T. Devane to Rao Family Trust for \$1,775,000

613 Norris Canyon Terrace Stokes Living Trust to D. Der for \$720,000

Source: California REsource

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.23 ACRES

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ORINDA



**12 RICHARD COURT,
ORINDA**

4 BD | 3 BA
2,415 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE
.46 ACRES

LISTED FOR \$2,195,000

SUNSET WEST



**921 LAGUNA STREET,
LIVERMORE**

3 BD | 2 BA
1,519 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE
6,500 SQ. FT. LOT

LISTED FOR \$1,279,000

THE PERCH



**7934 REGIONAL
COMMON, DUBLIN**

3 BD | 3 BA
1,584 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE

LISTED FOR \$1,098,888

GOLDEN EAGLE



**2173 INVERNESS COURT,
PLEASANTON**

3 BD | 2.5 BA
2,520 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE

LISTED FOR \$1,848,000

**CARRIAGE HILLS
ESTATES**



**663 ROMEO COURT,
PLEASANTON**

5 BD | 3 BA
APPROX. 3,700 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE
.47 ACRES

SOLD FOR \$2,900,000

**WELLINGTON
COMMUNITY**



**5375 BLACK AVENUE #4,
PLEASANTON**

2 BD | 2 BA
1,245 SQ. FT.
LIVING SPACE

SOLD FOR \$830,000

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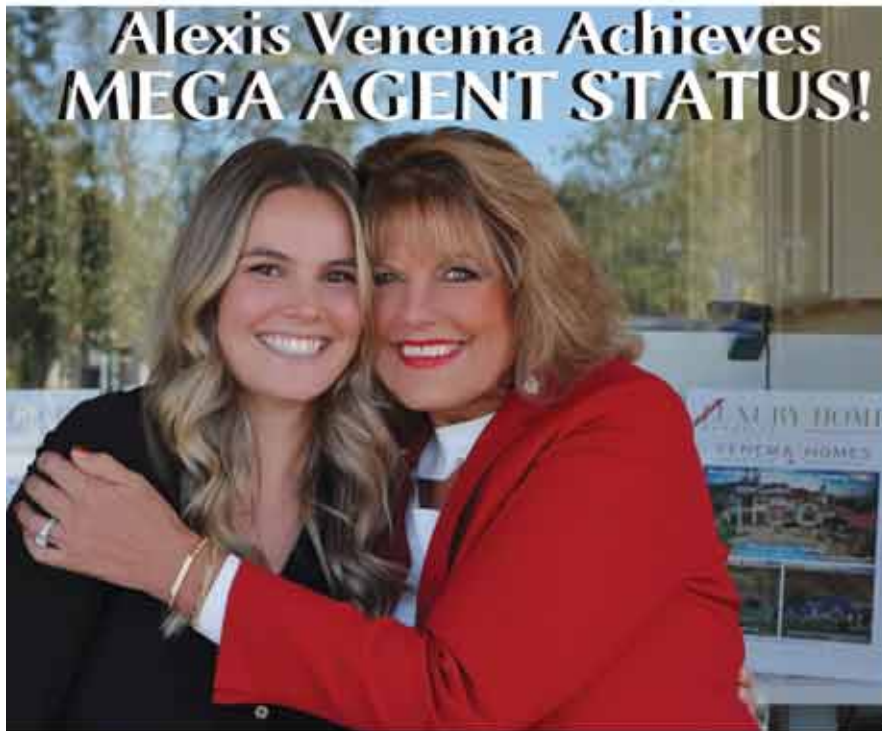
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2. Need a bigger space
3. Love the rate, but house no longer fits needs
4. Out of area relocation, change of work
5. Lots of equity, usually seniors



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