

PLEASANTON CANDIDATES DEBATE



TAX MEASURE, WATER, PUBLIC SAFETY, HOUSING, LOCAL ECONOMY AMONG HOT TOPICS AT MAYORAL AND COUNCIL FORUMS

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Very thorough and balances policy explanations and the personal experiences of families. The writer does a good job giving context, and the story is structured well with sections that make sense and flow well.

— First Place,
Coverage of Youth and
Education

School systems are bleeding teachers; perhaps nowhere more than in high-cost communities where educators can no longer afford to live. This piece looks at the issue from the district and teacher points of view. This was a very solid look at the issue.

— Second Place, In-Depth Reporting

Catalytic converter theft story was nicely reported with lots of details and facts. This story surprised me with how interesting — and timely — it was.

— First Place, Feature Story

”

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WHAT A WEEK



Country Fest to Cure ALS

While there is still unfortunately a lot that the scientific world does not know about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), they're learning more and more thanks to the efforts of the ALS CURE Project.

Longtime Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory IT architect Mike Piscotty and son Stephen Piscotty, the former Oakland Athletics outfielder and Amador Valley High School alumnus, founded the nonprofit five years ago after the death of wife/mother Gretchen Piscotty — motivated by her hope that “no one would have to suffer my fate.”

“Unfortunately, some of the brightest ALS scientists in the world have not been able to find the basic foundations needed to cure this illusive disease. We don't know why the disease starts, or why it progresses, and we still do not have a test or biomarker for the disease,” Mike Piscotty told me in a recent interview ahead of the nonprofit's upcoming fourth annual Country Fest fundraiser.

Any such target is vital for the pharmaceutical industry, and advancements toward ALS treatments and a cure — and thus has been the primary focus for the ALS CURE Project, its partners at LLNL, the Livermore Lab Foundation and around the world.

“We are optimistic that a target will be found for ALS in the near future and that drug companies will create therapies for ALS,” Mike said. “It is a true honor to work with these brilliant, empathetic and driven researchers as we work as an international team for this noble cause.”

The Piscottys' story made national headlines in 2017, when the St. Louis Cardinals traded Stephen to the A's so he could be closer to his mom in Pleasanton after she was diagnosed with ALS — a ruthless, incurable disease with its own lasting connection to baseball via one of its most famous early patients, Lou Gehrig.

Heart strings were again pulled among baseball fans in May 2018 when Stephen hit a memorably emotional home run in his first game back following Gretchen's death. The former Foothill High School secretary and mother of three sons was just 55 years old.

But the story was far from over: Mike and Stephen (and Gretchen) made sure of that.

“Our family and friends guided Gretchen through this journey in a beautiful and caring way. Gretchen's bravery in the face of this disease was why we felt compelled to honor her wishes,” Mike said, reflecting on the decision to

form the all-volunteer nonprofit to support the scientific fight for therapies and a cure.

“ALS is a progressive disease that methodically robs a person of the ability to move their muscles, eventually becoming trapped in their body all the while the brain functions normally,” he added. “Patients live on an average between one and five years, depending on the rate of their disease progression. Unfortunately, ALS is currently a death sentence, leaving patients and their families clinging and hoping to cherish every day.”

That's the harsh reality that the ALS CURE Project and its partners are working to improve.

The organization has found its niche raising money and awareness to support projects and initiatives in America and abroad in places like Italy, Slovenia and England.

“We're working really hard to get the international research community to work together,” Mike told me, pointing in particular to their support of the ALS Innovation Symposium, bringing brilliant minds of science and medicine together to converse and collaborate in ways they likely would not have before.

The fundraiser over back-to-back days at the end of September is earmarking money for two such aspects of the fight: drug repurposing and genetic combinations.

Country Fest to Cure ALS is centered on performances by Nashville recording artists Jason Blaine, Josh Melton and Jennifer Grant.

The opening event will be Sept. 27 from 5-10 p.m. at the Blackhawk Museum in Danville, a “bite night” and concert to marry entertainment and fundraising. More than a dozen restaurants from the greater Tri-Valley and Brentwood are participating, including Oyo, Chianti's, Blue Agave and Gay Nineties from Pleasanton.

On the next afternoon, Sept. 28 starting at 2 p.m., seven hours of country music and revelry (with local artists Toree McGee and the Carousel Cowboys) joining the three Nashville performers on the bill) will follow at Hannah Nicole Winery in Brentwood.

Mike himself has a stronger connection to East Contra Costa County these days, now living in Brentwood and Discovery Bay — saying he's lucky to have found “a second angel in my life” in new wife Donna.

VIP and general admission tickets to the fourth Country Fest to Cure ALS remain available, as well as sponsorship packages. Visit alscure.org to learn more. ■

About the Cover

From left: Jack Balch, Valerie Arkin, Craig Eicher, Matt Gaidos, Vivek Mohan and Karla Brown pose for a photo during the Pleasanton Weekly's Mayoral and Council Forum event on Sept. 5. Photo by Christian Trujano, with city of Pleasanton logo at bottom. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXV, Number 34

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

What measures are you currently taking, or do you plan to take, in order to curb cognitive decline/dementia as you age?



Wendy Lee

Executive assistant

Well, I'm not thinking about that too much yet, but there definitely are some things I do, like trying to do mundane, ordinary tasks like brushing my hair and teeth, and cooking and eating, with my non-dominant hand because I've been told that this helps to keep your brain sharp.



Kennedy Farro

Middle school student

I believe in doing all sorts of puzzles, like jigsaw puzzles and crossword puzzles. I also love to read. I think pretty much anything that keeps my mind busy and active will help me to stay sharp as I age, and not suffer too much cognitive decline.



Johnny Thomas

Comedy club owner

I take a lot of notes in order to help myself remember things. And I journal all of my great adventures so that I'll remember them and be able to relive the excitement by rereading them whenever I want. If that doesn't help to stave off dementia, I don't know what will.



Robert Dochnal

Engineer

I never really think about that directly, but I do know that indirectly I do lots of helpful things to prevent cognitive decline and increase my overall sense of well-being. I exercise regularly and try to maintain a good work-life balance. I also choose healthy eating options, and I try to read and learn and educate myself about new and unfamiliar things every single day.



Pete Walling

Retired

Oh my. I can feel that dementia coming on. Whenever I can't remember something, I force myself to go through the alphabet in order to remember what I'm not remembering. It works every single time. I don't rely on, and don't want to rely on electronics to help me with my memory and/or cognition. Especially because I have my beautiful wife to help me.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

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DIGEST

LVJUSD forum

Embarcadero Media Foundation's East Bay Division is holding its second candidate forum of the general election season next Thursday (Sept. 19), featuring competitors for two at-large seats on the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education.

On the ballot are Tara Boyce, Deena Kaplanis, Jean Paulsen, Amanda Pepper, Maggie Tufts and Christiaan VandenHeuvel. The board seats are wide open as neither incumbent is running for reelection.

Hosted by Livermore Vine, the forum will be moderated by publisher Gina Channell Wilcox and editorial director Jeremy Walsh. Folks can submit questions for consideration beforehand via the Election Forums page on livermorevine.com, as well as propose questions on index cards in the room.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Thursday and the forum will run from 6-8 p.m. in the LVJUSD board room at 685 E. Jack London Blvd. A video will be available afterward.

Corgi Con is back

Corgi Con, the event spotlighting the little pooches, is returning to the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton this weekend.

Running from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 14), Corgi Con features activities like doggy costume contests, Corgi races and some brand-new events, according to organizers.

All dogs must be registered, and pets are not normally allowed at the fairgrounds, organizers noted. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Library book sale

Friends of the Pleasanton Library is hosting its familiar Fall Book and Media Sale this weekend at the Pleasanton Public Library in downtown.

The event includes used books for all ages, CDs, DVDs, LPs, games and puzzles for sale "in nearly new condition and at incredibly low prices" to benefit the nonprofit's support of the local library, organizers said.

"These funds are used to provide programs and activities and to purchase materials and furnishings for which there are no provisions in the library budget," the Friends say on their website. They will also be recruiting new and renewed members at the event.

The book sale, which started on Thursday, continues Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., including the popular fill one bag for \$7 promotion on the final day. Learn more at friendsofthepleasantonlibrary.org. ■

Council awards construction contract for Lions Wayside Park improvements

Staff go over initial bandstand renderings, say work should start later this month and continue into May

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton residents will soon begin to see construction take place at the Lions Wayside park later this month after the City Council unanimously approved the final design plans and awarded a construction contract to create a new lawn area and new bandstand at the park.

The council pulled the item from its consent calendar at the Sept. 3 meeting to further discuss the specifics of the new bandstand

as well as some other details regarding trees. However, the overall sentiment from the council was that they are excited to see the renovation project come to fruition next year.

"I can't wait to be there in 2025 when it's complete," Mayor Karla Brown said in the council chambers.

Renovating Lions Wayside and Delucchi parks has been something that the city of Pleasanton has been discussing since the '90s and 2000s. Matt Gruber, a

landscape architect with the city, told the council that at that time, the city had identified parks for renovation, which included the adjacent parks on First Street.

Then in 2014, the city adopted the Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks Master Plan, which outlined several goals including connecting the two parks and the rest of downtown and relocating Kottinger Creek.

But that plan was not approved by regulatory agencies at the time. Gruber said staff got preliminary

regulatory agency approval in 2021 and began doing community outreach for an updated master plan in 2022.

However, staff soon estimated that any future efforts to pursue the full master plan redevelopment would cost the city between \$10 million to \$12 million, which is why the council majority on Feb. 7, 2023 directed staff to use the \$1.9 million in the project's budget to focus on improvements

See **PARK** on Page 11



CHUCK DECKERT

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Superintendent Torie Gibson recently sat down with Livermore Vine and the Pleasanton Weekly to talk about her first weeks leading the district.

On the job with LVJUSD Superintendent Gibson

New leader hits the ground running with 24/7 mindset as district faces budget deficit, schedule drama and more

By JUDE STRZEMP

As soon as Torie Gibson wakes up she checks her work email.

From here she attends back-to-back meetings, makes school visits and manages anything else that comes up throughout the day.

Sometime around 5:30 to 7 p.m., she heads home for dinner with her husband. Then she labors a second shift as superintendent until 10:30 or 11 p.m.

It's rinse and repeat, Gibson

said in an interview with Livermore Vine.

"Education is a very passion-driven field because it involves people's children, and I have great respect for that," she said. "And whether it's a Saturday or a Thursday, those passions don't change for parents or for staff."

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's new superintendent began her role in July, following the board's unanimous approval. They were impressed with her previous experience as

a superintendent and she was similarly impressed by the district's programs.

Since taking the helm in Livermore, she's faced ongoing budget concerns and growing pains accompanying a new semester system.

She said she's also taken steps to question district habits, all the while being communicative and relatable.

"I'm a normal person like

Ex-lab official dies in car crash

After LLNL career, McMillan went on to lead Los Alamos

By JEREMY WALSH

Charles McMillan, the former director of Los Alamos National Laboratory whose career first blossomed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory over two decades, was killed in a car crash on Friday in New Mexico where he resided in retirement and still consulted for the lab. He was 69.

A physicist by training and trade, McMillan's experimental work, research and leadership assignments influenced innovations from nuclear weapons to space exploration to vaccinations to artificial intelligence and more, according to officials with both laboratories.

"My thoughts and sympathy are with Charlie's wife and family. Charlie was a wonderful colleague and important mentor to many, including me," current LLNL Director Kim Budil told Livermore Vine on Sunday morning.

"He brought great passion and intellect to everything he did, from his leadership in our nuclear deterrence mission to his more recent



Charles McMillan

See **GIBSON** on Page 7

See **MCMILLAN** on Page 6

Visit Tri-Valley commits to developing multi-use event center

In early planning and funding stage, proposed new venue would cater to indoor sports, entertainment, business

By JEREMY WALSH

Regional destination marketing organization Visit Tri-Valley unveiled its commitment Wednesday to develop a new multi-use event center from the ground up in Pleasanton, Livermore or Dublin during the coming years.

Citing the economic and reputational possibilities for the entire region, Visit Tri-Valley officials said the indoor venue would be “a premier destination for large-scale dynamic events” catering particularly to sports tournaments, entertainment shows and corporate meetings or conferences — a state-of-the-art amenity they say the area has been aching for.

“It will drive more business, visitor spending and it will be an incredible venue for the benefit of all of us,” President CEO Tracy Farhad said in a video statement this week. “In fact, this event center is going to showcase what the Tri-Valley has become increasingly famous for: being at the heart of innovation.”

“We are committed to bringing this project to life, holding hands and

working together with our industry partners. So help me in welcoming the world to our doorstep,” Farhad added.

Visit Tri-Valley announced the news and released conceptual renderings during its “Cirque Tri-Valle” annual showcase at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Wednesday afternoon, with press materials also shared with local media.

“I couldn’t be more thrilled about the Multi-use Event Center right here in the Tri-Valley,” Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert said in the press release. “I believe it’s just what the Tri-Valley needs to generate civic pride, create more jobs and increase visitor spending. It will help to put the Tri-Valley on the map as a world-class sporting, entertainment, and meetings destination.”

A regional need identified in Visit Tri-Valley’s 2023 Strategic Plan, especially around potential sports tourism, the event center project is in its early stages. A specific location has not been finalized, but the organization has narrowed the possibilities

down to several undisclosed spots in Pleasanton, Livermore or Dublin.

“These locations offer optimal accessibility and proximity to amenities like restaurants, hotels, and transportation options,” officials said. “The next phase of development will focus on on-site evaluation, securing funding, gaining community support, and finalizing the venue’s design and operational model to begin development within the next three years.”

The concept calls for a versatile venue with a minimum of 100,000 square feet of flexible space that could host sports competitions from regional to international in volleyball, basketball, fencing, gymnastics and the like, according to Visit Tri-Valley.

But the uses would go beyond that, catering to entertainment arts, cultural and corporate events as well with advanced audiovisual technology, ideal acoustics and adjustable space for meeting rooms or breakouts for tradeshows, conferences, banquets and company retreats.

“The center will be built with considerations of the CEQA review



VISIT TRI-VALLEY

Visit Tri-Valley proposes to develop a new multi-use venue to draw the sports, entertainment and corporate event industries more to the region.

process and is expected to generate significant economic impact,” officials said. “Preliminary projections suggest the venue will host more than 185 annual event days, attract approximately 130,950 attendees, and generate an additional 24,000 room nights per year.”

The tourism industry is already a significant part of the Tri-Valley economy, bringing in \$631 million in direct travel-related spending last

year and accounting for nearly 4,500 jobs in hospitality, according to the organization.

Visit Tri-Valley, a 501(c)(6) non-profit, is the tourism business improvement district for the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin and the town of Danville, funded primarily by an assessment on hotel nightly stays in those communities. San Ramon pulled out in 2015, opting to form its own city-specific entity. ■

MCMILLAN

Continued from Page 5

engagement on AI,” Budil said. “He has left an indelible mark on both LLNL and LANL as well as the broader national security community.”

Los Alamos lab officials publicly announced McMillan’s death in the car crash on Friday (Sept. 6) — news that would then be first reported by the Sante Fe New Mexican.

“On behalf of the entire Laboratory, I would like to express deepest sympathies to the McMillan family and

to the many current and former employees who worked closely with Charlie and knew him well,” Los Alamos National Laboratory Director Thom Mason said in a statement Friday, which was later shared with Livermore Vine.

“His work had an important impact on our mission and that of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and helped set the stage for success in many critical areas of focus, like AI. We will certainly miss his enthusiasm and passion for our work, but the loss of Charlie as a mentor, colleague and

friend is a greater tragedy,” Mason added.

A graduate of Washington Adventist University who would earn a doctorate degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, McMillan began his career as a physicist in Livermore in 1983, according to his bio on LinkedIn. He held various positions over the ensuing 23 years, becoming B Division leader at LLNL from September 2001 to May 2006.

“During McMillan’s two decades at LLNL, he held a variety

of research and management positions, making an indelible impact on the Laboratory. He began his career as an experimentalist in B Division (primary design) and was part of the early subcritical experiments program,” Livermore lab officials told Livermore Vine.

“As associate B Division leader from 1992-1999, he played a key role in defining and establishing the Stockpile Stewardship Program,” they added. “In his subsequent roles as W80 project leader and B division leader, he provided important direction on LLNL systems in the nation’s nuclear stockpile. He was an important leader in the Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative, shaping LLNL’s efforts in high performance computing and advanced code development.”

McMillan made the move to Los Alamos in June 2006 as associate director of weapons physics, and rose through the ranks to become director of the lab and president of Los Alamos National Security, LLC from June 2011 to December 2017.

According to Los Alamos officials, his tenure as director was marked by leading “a growing workforce through a period that showcased the Lab’s multidisciplinary capabilities and included advancing our analytical capabilities with the Trinity supercomputer, helping to ensure the long-term viability of the nuclear weapons stockpile, supporting Mars exploration, aiding global efforts to develop an HIV vaccine and producing lifesaving medical isotopes.”

“Charlie’s dedicated leadership enabled the Lab to meet these challenges and achieve tremendous success,” they added.

McMillan retired in 2018 but remained involved with the lab in Los Alamos, including championing its work with AI.

As for what happened Friday morning several miles from the national lab, the Los Alamos County Police Department confirmed the fatal crash in an initial press release and traffic advisory but shared few specifics about their investigative findings thus far.

Police stated that the two-vehicle collision occurred at about 5:15 a.m. on New Mexico State Road 502 near the Camino Entrada intersection.

Of the three occupants among the two vehicles, a 22-year-old woman was taken to Los Alamos Medical Center with minor injuries and a 69-year-old man — later identified as McMillan — was pronounced dead at the hospital, police said.

“The Los Alamos Police Department sends our condolences to the families and all those affected by the accident. We ask that all commuters continue to obey traffic safety laws and exercise caution while traveling,” the department stated.

The press release did not include any additional details about the circumstances of the crash, including how and why the two vehicles collided and who may have been at fault. The department declined to comment on such information when contacted over the weekend, citing the pending nature of the probe.

“The investigation is still ongoing. Information will be provided at its conclusion,” Deputy Chief James Rodriguez told Livermore Vine on Monday. “Details of case reports and accidents are not released while investigations are still pending.” ■

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GIBSON

Continued from Page 5

everybody else and have a family and have a husband and a dog and all the things that we all enjoy in life outside of work," Gibson said. "And I don't sit back and not share that part of my world as well."

Since graduating college in the late '90s, Gibson has served roles in education as a school counselor, vice principal, principal and director of program improvement.

She also has nine years of experience working as a superintendent.

Most recently, she served as dual superintendent for the Amador County Office of Education and Amador County Unified School District east of Sacramento.

As the granddaughter of a cattle rancher, she was attracted to LVJUSD in part because of its agriculture and trade programs.

"All kids need access to different things that make them tick, to keep them engaged and help them figure out where they want to go," she said. "Livermore does an excellent job of providing many, many options to our students, so everyone can find their little tribe or village that they can fit into."

The board appointed her out of admiration for her principle of transparency and her ability to make tough decisions, according to Emily Prusso, president of LVJUSD Board of Education.

They also value her experience at the district and county-levels, where she gained insight into all elements of leadership, LVJUSD Board Member Steven Drouin said.

"I'm honored that they chose me," said Gibson, Livermore's third schools superintendent in the last four years. "I'm proud to represent the programs that we offer here."

In July, she made the transition to LVJUSD by working with outgoing superintendent Chris Van Schaack, who retired after two years at the district helm and 30 years working for LVJUSD.

"She is highly experienced and capable and has hit the ground running," he said.

Among the challenges she's already faced is Livermore High School's scheduling issue.

The problem arose when performing arts students couldn't fit prep for the annual school musical into their schedules. Gibson helped resolve it by moving seventh period drama production courses to a ninth period, which lands after the normal school day.

"Our hope is that we could find a way to put it into the regular school day and just be more conscientious about those conflicts that are going to happen," Gibson said of future years.

She expects to see more "bumps in the road" with high school scheduling this year, as the district has converted from a trimester system to a semester system.

In addition to scheduling issues, she anticipates budgeting to be an ongoing topic this year.

The district is operating on a "qualified budget," which means funding is secured for the remainder of this school year but not future years, according to Prusso.

Much of the budget deficit is due to running out of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, Gibson said. These were one-time dollars distributed as part of COVID-related support.

"Those funds are now deplete(d), yet we still have supports in place that are still needed," Prusso said, citing mental health and educational programs.

Even though the district reduced expenditures for the 2024-25 school year and beyond by about \$6 million through retirements, resignations and very cautious spending, the district still needs to balance out about \$4 million for the 2025-26 budget, according to Van Schaack.

In response to the deficit she's inheriting, Gibson said, "We're going to make cuts away from classrooms first."

She explained that sometimes deficit-spending happens because the district isn't spending from the general fund before its most restrictive funding. So moving the district out of its deficit might just mean making adjustments on where the funds are coming from.

Over the next month or two, she'll be working with the new assistant superintendent of business services Kayla Wasley and the board to discuss options for addressing the issue.

But Gibson made it clear, "I'm not somebody that will sit for very long in a deficit spending situation."

She has also made clear that she's willing to probe tradition.

"We do a lot of what I like to call 'grandma's ham,' which is where you go to grandma's house for Easter and everybody eats the

ham and nobody complains about it, but nobody likes the ham," she said.

Now, she's joining "dinner" and asking why things are done the way they are.

Sometimes, the district's method is already functional and in that case there's no need to change. But Gibson said a lot of the time, she sees people shrug their shoulders and say, "we don't know why."

"I'm really advocating for staff to have that growth mindset, to challenge ourselves and to challenge each other," she said, the goal being to work smarter, not harder.

Looking toward the future, Gibson sees herself at the district long-term.

And even in a work schedule she says is 24/7, she responds to every email and works to make connections in person and on the phone.

"If anybody asked me if I'm tired, yes, I'm tired," Gibson said, with a smile, "But I'm definitely up for the challenge and ready for this school year to be productive." ■



CHUCK DECKERT

Gibson joins LVJUSD after leading schools in Amador County.

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Tri-Valley Conservancy names Spector new executive director

Nonprofit's fifth leader in three years is 'an exceptional match for TVC's needs'

By JUDE STRZEMP

Policy advocate and environmental nonprofit leader Rebecca Spector is the new permanent executive director for Tri-Valley Conservancy, according to an announcement by the organization Monday.

Spector began leading TVC this month and will help it enact its mission of "promoting economically sustainable vineyards and orchards, and increasing permanently protected, biologically diverse open spaces," according to the press release. She will also manage the nonprofit team and increase the organization's fundraising capacity

and community engagement.

"My new role with TVC perfectly combines my passion for preserving agricultural land, promoting regional food and farming, and embracing environmental values," Spector said in a statement. "I'm excited to bring my experience as a former farm owner and policy advocate to TVC to help achieve its goals to support the community and the environment."



Rebecca Spector

She joins TVC following much transition in the organization's leadership within the past few years. Spector becomes the fifth executive director — permanent or temporary — for TVC since longtime leader Laura Mercier retired in June 2021.

Most recently, former executive director David Epstein, who began in March 2022, left TVC for undisclosed reasons last fall. In response, TVC director of finance and operations Jennifer Taggart was promoted to interim leader.

To the permanent position, Spector brings over 15 years of experience as a nonprofit leader and

10 years as a farm owner.

Prior to becoming TVC's permanent executive director, Spector served as the interim executive director and West Coast director at the Center for Food Safety. At the center, she led policy initiatives to acquire funding for farmers and environmental protections in California. She also headed communications, fundraising, regional policy and advocacy teams.

Spector even founded the first certified-organic farm in Half Moon Bay and co-founded the California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN), according to the announcement.

"Rebecca Spector is an exceptional match for TVC's needs for both quality and experience," said Mark Triska, chair of the board of directors at TVC.

During applications, she stood out from nearly 100 candidates because of her interdisciplinary background, according to Jena Kuznik, senior consultant and search lead at a Potrero Group, the consulting firm responsible for running the application process.

"Beyond her subject matter expertise, she demonstrated the vision, leadership, and empathy necessary for success in this role," Kuznik said. ■

Caltrans sets full shutdown on southbound I-680 next weekend

Two more partial closures for same area in San Ramon also set for two October weekends

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Tri-Valley residents and those passing through the area should expect to see some delays with traffic later this month as Caltrans gets set to fully close a portion of the southbound Interstate 680.

According to a press release from the transportation agency, construction crews will be closing off the freeway between Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon and the I-580 and I-680 connector in Pleasanton from next Friday night (Sept. 20) until the following

Monday morning (Sept. 23).

The weekend closure is scheduled to start on 9 p.m. that Friday and will last until that next Monday morning at 4 a.m.

Caltrans said, however, that all the I-580/I-680 connectors "will remain open through right-most

lanes on southbound I-680."

"Northbound I-680 and I-580/I-680 interchange connector will remain open and will not be affected by the closure," Janis Mara, a spokesperson for the transportation agency, said in the press release. "We encourage motorists to take alternative routes to alleviate traffic congestion within the construction work zone on southbound I-680 in the cities of San Ramon and Dublin."

According to the press release, during the closure a contractor with the agency will be replacing that portion of the existing roadway with new pavement.

"The work will repair deteriorating existing pavement and enhance motorist safety while reducing the number of nightly closures needed on the project," Mara stated in the press release. "This weekend closure will accomplish the amount of work that otherwise would require an estimated 40 nighttime closures."

Caltrans is suggesting that those

driving west on I-80 in Vacaville and Fairfield should remain on the same freeway and go to southbound Interstate 880. Those coming south on I-680 near the Benicia Bridge are advised to take I-780 west to I-80 in order to hit southbound I-880.

Caltrans also said I-680 southbound drivers in Concord can go on Highway 4 to I-80 to southbound I-880. Those on southbound I-680 in Walnut Creek can take Highway 24 to I-80 to I-880.

The southbound Saint Patrick Way onramp onto southbound I-680 in Dublin will also be fully closed.

Finally, those going southbound on I-680 in Danville can hop on Interstate 580 west to Highway 238 in order to get to I-880 south or can go eastbound on I-580 in order to hop on Highway 84 to reach I-680 south.

Mara further stated that in addition to the full closures on southbound I-680, the far-left express lane and the left shoulder on northbound I-680 between Amador Valley Boulevard in Dublin and Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon will also be closed.

Following the weekend closure,

See **FREWAY** on Page 10



LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Candidates' Forum

JOIN US
**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19**

6 to 8 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Livermore Valley Joint Unified
School District Board Room

685 E Jack London Blvd.,
Livermore

HOSTED BY Livermore **VINE**



Tara
Boyce



Deena
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Jean
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Amanda
Pepper



Margarita
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LEARN MORE: LivermoreVine.com/election-forums/

To submit questions for consideration,
scan code or visit tinyurl.com/LV-school-board

*Image not available



THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

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

- Receive Fiscal Year 2023/24 Library and Recreation Programs and Services Presentation
- City Budget Update

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

Livermore native set to serve as Navy chaplain

Matkins being deployed on USS George Washington soon

By TIM HUNT

Livermore native Lt. Jg. Steven Matkins will achieve a milestone in his journey to serve as a chaplain in the United States Navy this fall.

Matkins, nearing the end of his five-year education and training, is scheduled to be deployed to Japan to serve on the USS George Washington, an aircraft carrier with about 5,000 crew members. It's been quite a road to his calling.

He grew up in Livermore and

attended Livermore High School and was active in the local Church of Christ. During that time, he felt the urging to serve in ministry. In high school, he played the trombone in the marching and concert bands as well as playing lacrosse. His lacrosse cost him when he and his buddies wanted to enlist in the Marines after graduation. Two collapsed lungs rendered him medically ineligible.

Instead he advanced to college and graduated from Pepperdine

University with majors in Italian and religion after "suffering" for four years overlooking in the Pacific Ocean from the bluffs of Malibu. He had checked out various ministry opportunities and decided to pursue chaplaincy. It's a challenging program involving earning a masters of divinity degree plus plenty of specialized training in counseling to prepare for the job. He was accepted in Officer Development School in Newport, RI.

He finished most of the program and graduated from Denver Seminary in 2023. He is now working at Littleton Church of Christ. He spent his summers doing on-the-job training, but missed on the chance to serve on a ship at sea while spending a summer in Norfolk, Va.

He said that unlike traditional church ministry where pastors wait for people to approach them, chaplaincy is a ministry of presence where they are doing whatever their team is doing whether that's deploying to sea or grubbing it in the dirt in a tent. Living just like their crewmates is a given for chaplains.

Matkins credits his youth pastor in Livermore, Jacob Parnell, in teaching him early of the importance of presence. He remembers

Parnell showing up for his band concerts and lacrosse games — being present. Parnell is now the preaching pastor at the Tri-Valley Church of Christ on East Avenue in Livermore.

He's excited as he prepares for active duty later this fall as he approaches his 30th birthday.

Another recent press release from the Navy communications office highlighted Petty Officer 3rd Class Edwin Tayo, who is training for a maintenance squadron for Navy aircraft in Washington. He graduated from Granada High in 2014. ■



Steven Matkins

Single find in Fremont sparks major medfly quarantine

Produce grown southwest of Sunol should stay in the area for safety, state says

By KILEY RUSSELL / BCN

A large swath of Alameda County is now under a quarantine for the invasive Mediterranean fruit fly after agriculture officials recently discovered one mated female in Fremont.

The quarantine area is 71 square miles just southwest of Sunol and defined by Highway 84 in the

north, the Alameda-Santa Clara county border in the south, the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in the west and on the east by Calaveras Creek.

During the quarantine, produce grown in the area should stay in the area — this applies to farmers, wholesalers, retailers and home

gardeners, according to officials from the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Produce can be consumed on the property where it was grown or, if infected, can be placed in a double bag and thrown into a trash bin, not green waste.

See **MEDFLY** on Page 10

Our 65+ Bay Area locations let us peek at a lot more boos.



Stanford
MEDICINE
Children's Health

In-person or virtual
visits at LPSR Pediatrics
genpeds.stanfordchildrens.org

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Talking Real Estate with Doug Buenz | Compass

August Pleasanton Real Estate Market Update – Fickle Fall Market

The Pleasanton real estate market in August was hot and cold, active and sluggish, and generally volatile much like the stock market. Some homes are languishing on the market, other sell right away with multiple offers. This is not a surprise given the economic uncertainty, volatile stock market, and political uneasiness. And true to form, the market stats from August are uneven as well. It is shaping up to be a volatile Fall season. Buckle up. The good news is we are likely to see mortgage rates ease further, which should definitely help the real estate market.

Let's take a dive into the numbers for August

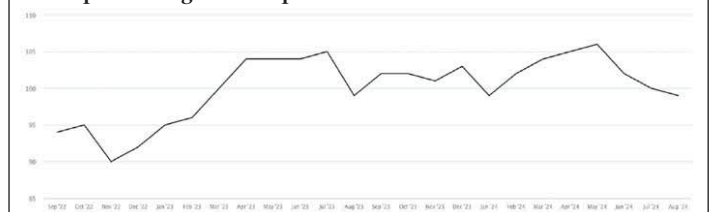
Supply/Inventory: The inventory of available single-family homes declined in August. There were 66 single family homes >> [To read the rest of this article go to The680Blog.com.](http://The680Blog.com)

Pleasanton Market Report

Data for August 2024 - Single Family Detached Homes

	AUG 2024	CHANGE FROM JUL 2024	CHANGE FROM AUG 2023
Homes sold	43	↑23%	↑2.4%
Homes for sale	66	↓14%	↑113%
Median days on market	13	↑8.3%	↑63%
Median price per square foot	\$922	↑6.1%	↑8.6%
Months of inventory	1.5	↑12%	↑108%
Median sold price	\$1,600,000	↓8.6%	↓13%
Homes under contract	46	↑2.2%	↑9.5%

Sold price/original list price %



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Culinary Angels hires Sakhiy as executive director

Moving from Orphans In Need, new leader taking reins from founder McNaney

FREEWAY

Continued from Page 8

By JEREMY WALSH
Tri-Valley cancer patient support nonprofit Culinary Angels confirmed the selection of Mansoor Sakhiy as its new executive director.

Sakhiy, who brings more than 16 years of nonprofit leadership experience, most recently as CEO of Orphans In Need based out of Dublin, is taking over for Culinary Angels founder Lisa McNaney, who

announced earlier this year her plans to step back from the executive director role.

Sakhiy said in a press release last week that he was “incredibly honored” to join the nonprofit that provides healthy meals to cancer patients and their caregivers free-of-charge in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville.

“The mission of providing

nourishing meals to those facing a cancer challenge deeply resonates with me. I’m excited to work alongside such a dedicated staff, volunteers, and board members who have been instrumental in driving this impactful mission forward,” Sakhiy added. “A special thank you to founder Lisa McNaney for her vision and leadership in building such an amazing organization, and I look forward to continuing her legacy.”

McNaney, who founded the nonprofit in 2016 after being inspired to help others going through a cancer challenge, said, “The organization is in a perfect position to be



Mansoor Sakhiy

taken to the next level of growth and be able to provide greater impact to those in need. It’s an incredible opportunity and I am looking forward to working with Mansoor and transitioning him to this exciting new role.”

Culinary Angels Board Chair Lynn Monica praised Sakhiy’s resume of experience with strategic planning, fundraising and marketing mainly in the international humanitarian relief nonprofit sector. “We are looking forward to working with him as he guides the organization into the future,” Monica said.

A transition that is also a bit bittersweet, Monica commended McNaney for her “vision, dedication and the leadership of Culinary Angels, and for all the growth of the organization since its founding. Lisa will be missed by all.” ■

David Wayne Lozier

March 11, 1943 – September 1, 2024

“Life is just a voyage that’s homeward bound.”

David is on his homeward voyage. A space cadet, a rocket man, a NASA employee for 40 years, he witnessed the Golden Age Of Space Exploration. With a mere Bachelor of Arts degree and the computer programmer “right stuff”, he landed the job of a lifetime. From the beginning, in 1966, he was at the right place at the right time.



After attending college at Washington State University, David entered on the ground floor of Solar System Exploration as an aerospace engineer on the Pioneer Project, at Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California. The Pioneer Project would eventually send four spacecraft around the Sun and two to Jupiter and Saturn, a Venus orbiter and four probes into the atmosphere of Venus down to the surface. He was part of the Launch Operations Team of four Pioneer spacecraft at Cape Canaveral and witness to the launch of Pioneer 10, the first man made object to leave the Solar System and send back data from 80 astronomical units away from the Sun. Acclaimed physicist, Doctor James Van Allen, known for scientific discovery of the early space age and the Geiger Tube Telescope, praised the project for its “pioneering efforts”. All of the Pioneer Spacecraft exceeded operating lifetimes and surpassed all expectations of mission success.

David’s start as a trajectory engineer led to work in Mission Design, Navigation, Launch Operations and Mission Operations. David’s intelligent contributions at NASA earned him the title of Pioneer Flight Director until the end of the Pioneer Project, in 2002. His aerospace career’s final role as the Mission Design and Navigation Team leader facilitated NASA’s successful return mission to the Moon by the Lunar Prospector, a spacecraft resembling the visual look of the Pioneer 6. Launched in 1965, Pioneer 6 may still be operating but tracking was lost in 2000. Solar System Exploration had returned home.

David is survived by his wife, Nani Lozier, a former Polynesian dance and ukulele instructor, who always supported him in his career. Nani pushed his creative boundaries and made his fantasies come true. David and Nani’s travel journey made multiple trips to the Hawaiian Islands of Maui, Kauai and Oahu. Further travels to Asia included Nani’s origins in the Philippines, Hong Kong and Macau in China, onward to Osaka and Tokyo in Japan.

Additional adventures led their exploration to visit European monuments in Paris-France, Barcelona-Spain, Tossa De Mar on the Mediterranean and Lisbon-Portugal. On business to Aerico, they visited San Juan, Puerto Rico. Stateside, travel brought them to the Pacific Northwest, Canada and the New England states. Their excursions were made with a mutual belief that, “books impart knowledge but only travel imparts wisdom”.

David is also survived by his stepdaughter, Tara Bell and his buddies, Cassius and Angelo Bell. And last, but not least, Dione Hoover. Retirement and grandkids made his life happier than he had ever experienced before.

“To infinity and beyond”

PAID OBITUARY

John Edward Brophy

January 9, 1937 – June 19, 2024

John Edward (Jack) Brophy
Celebration of Life – 18 September 2024
Graham-Hitch Mortuary
4167 First St., Pleasanton CA 94566
11 am – 12:30
Reception following at the family home
in Pleasanton CA 94566
01-09-1937 – 06-19-2024



Jack was first known as a wonderful friend whether you knew him for 10 minutes or 10 years. He had that dimpled warm smile to greet you each time you met. Jack was a son, brother, husband, brother-in-law, father, granddaddy, great-granddaddy, uncle, and the best friend you could want.

Jack leaves behind his loving wife of 43 years, Jeanne Brophy, children: Elizabeth Brophy Giovanetti (Mark), John Brophy (Aria), Julee Brophy Winterbourne, David Brophy (Nicole) and Michael Brophy (Aimee) as well as many grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents John and Laura Brophy, his first wife Carolyn Pollard Brophy, Sister, Joyce Marie Brophy Phipps, and Granddaughter Jacquelyn Rae Brophy.

Jack was a very sharing person and known around the neighborhood as the guy with the tools and know-how. Once when I asked him where he was going, he said “someone needs to teach these young pups how to do things.” This meant he was off to help mend a fence or make a flower box. Once Jack even helped a dad and his young boy scout make a wooden car in our garage using Jack’s tools.

Just as Jack was a dependable friend and neighbor, he also was always supportive of his family and their needs. I know that he was always by my side and ready to help. The saying he said most was “A thing of beauty is a joy forever”. He changed the saying to “A quilt is a thing of beauty and is a joy forever”. It is on my business card today.

Jack got joy from the little things in life, like peach season. We would grill them, even when he needed to use his Sawzall to cut open the last peach of the season.

Jack was from the class of ’58 at Annapolis. When football season came around his quote was “Beat Army, Tie Coast Guard.” He was a very patriotic man, and we have a flag that flies day and night.

This man will truly be missed, I know I miss him every day.

PAID OBITUARY

MEDFLY

Continued from Page 9

In order to eradicate the pest, sterile male medflies will be released in the area at the rate of 250,000 males per square mile per week in a 39-square-mile area around the infestation.

Also, properties within about 650 feet of infested areas are being treated with an organic pesticide and fruit will be removed from areas with about 330 feet of properties with mated females, larval detections or multiple adult detections, according to CDFA officials.

The mated female medfly was found in a trap on Aug. 28 and it’s unclear how long the quarantine will last.

The last medfly quarantine in Alameda County was in 1981.

Medflies will infest more than 250 types of fruits and vegetables and people who think they might have an infestation can call the state’s Pest Hotline at 800-491-1899 or email reportapest@cdfa.ca.gov.

State officials say most invasive pests arrive in this country by people illegally bringing back produce from travels abroad.

For more information about how to avoid causing an infestation, people can review the USDA’s “Don’t Pack a Pest” program at www.dontpackapest.com. ■



SCOTT BAUER/USDA/BCN

The Mediterranean fruit fly, *Ceratitis capitata*.

PARK

Continued from Page 5

rather than a full redevelopment plan.

"I feel pretty good that we made a really good decision there given that things have only gotten fiscally more tight since that decision was made," Vice Mayor Julie Testa said during the meeting.

Since then, staff came up with a concept plan for the Lions Wayside Park and the bandstand that have been approved by the council. The city plans on moving the Chan Henderson Bicentennial Bandstand to be on the other side of the park — on the end nearer to the Firehouse Arts Center — and reorienting the bandstand to face toward a large open space of Lions Wayside.

The council also previously heard from musicians who offered input on the bandstand design so that it better serves bands — the council took those recommendations and approved a revised bandstand concept this past March.

The construction drawings for these and other amenity improvements at Lions Wayside were recently completed in June, leading to the council awarding a \$1,265,000 construction contract on Sept. 3 to Integra Construction Services, Inc. — which would include a 10% contingency.

Staff did not recommend that the city move forward with pathway and landscape improvements at Delucchi Park due to the high costs.

While Testa said that she had thought the plan was to look at more of a gazebo-style for the bandstand, one of the members of the The CoolTones Big Band, a Tri-Valley-based music group,

told the council that a gazebo is the worst structure to play music in and that if the city is going to go through with this project, it needs to be done right so that it serves its purpose.

Testa said she still wants to see the evolution of the bandstand design so that the city can make sure it matches the aesthetic of the surrounding homes.

The council discussed how the new bandstand would have electricity throughout the structure so bands can put up lights or speakers, but the city is not planning on putting lights except for low lights in the back for security purposes.

Brown said while the bandstand will be closer to the homes across the street from the park, because the stage will be facing the park the noise won't be as bad — even with speakers.

Councilmember Jack Balch also asked Gruber about the trees at the park and clarified how even though the plan is to cut down a mature Mulberry tree, the city is also planning on planting several new trees.

Councilmember Valerie Arkin made it a point at the end of the meeting that the public should know the funds for this project are not coming out of the general fund. According to Gruber, all of the money for the project is being funded by park development impact fees, which are dedicated to the renovation of the two parks.

Gruber said now that the council awarded the construction contract, work should start in late September and is scheduled to end in May 2025. He said there will be a maintenance period where the new lawns will be closed from next May to July because it takes time for the new

grass roots to establish.

He said the city will have to work with the Pleasanton Downtown Association to accommodate next year's summer Concerts in the Park series, which take place during the time the lawn would be closed. He said the city would either begin the series earlier or have it extended and start late.

As for any future plans to do something with the ice box on the downtown side of Lions Wayside or possibly adding more speakers, staff said those would be things that the city looks at in the future as more funding becomes available. ■



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

A conceptual rendering of the new bandstand that would be built at Lions Wayside Park. According to city staff, the actual bandstand will not have stairs.

Donalyn Cowden

October 20, 1931 – August 21, 2024

It is with great sadness that we share news of the death of our beloved mother, Donalyn Rees Cowden. Donalyn passed away peacefully with family by her side on Aug. 21, 2024.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, Donalyn spent many happy years growing up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with her parents Merlin and Mildred Rees, and sisters, Maralyn and Karen. She married Wayne Cowden in 1952 and together they were able to build a family and lifetime of love. As a little girl she enjoyed playing in the loft full of sawdust at her grandfather's planing mill and cabinet shop with her sisters and cousins. In the years to come, she helped her father promote his John Deer Tractor business at the Iowa State Fair and during college she was invited to sing on the radio.

After high school graduation, Donalyn attended Colorado Women's College in Denver and earned her degree in Elementary Education from Colorado State College of Education in Greeley, Colorado. In 1980 Donalyn completed her Master of Education at St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA. She taught 5th grade at Alisal School and was a Reading and Resource Specialist and Special Education teacher for the Pleasanton School District for 35 years. She had many fond memories of her students, and the time she taught in Pleasanton. She was grateful when students would reintroduce themselves to her after she retired.

Donalyn was a warm, thoughtful and extremely polite lady. She greatly appreciated any assistance she received from those around her. Martha, Craig and Paul were educated in social protocol such as how to set a table (including which utensil to use for what), writing thank you notes, and to present ourselves in a positive light in any situation.

After retirement Donalyn and Wayne traveled extensively all over the world, which they enjoyed thoroughly. They acquired a home in Maui after visiting there for their 25th anniversary. The family continues to enjoy staying at "Grandma and Grandpa's place". They were gracious hosts, and she enjoyed teaching anyone who visited all about the flora and fauna of Maui, tide pooling, and learning to say "humuhumunukunukuapua'a". She really

enjoyed spoiling her grandkids!

Donalyn was proud that she participated in "deep water aerobics" for many years and worked as a volunteer at ValleyCare Hospital. She was a dedicated member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood Chapter WB, Pleasanton. A group passionate about supporting and motivating women through education. Donalyn is well known for her great dinner parties. Favorites included her beef stroganoff and meat fondue, with a multitude of dipping sauces, and the various ways she prepared the fresh abalone Dad brought home after his diving adventures. Family tradition always included the grandchildren making Cinnamon Brunch Rolls on Christmas Eve so each family could enjoy them on Christmas morning. She enjoyed camping and making sure her children visited as many landmarks as possible. A

favorite was visiting the Hershey Chocolate factory in Pennsylvania. Always a teacher...

Her greatest love was her family. She leaves behind her daughter Martha Brown (Hal), Craig (Leigh) and Paul (Lori) and sister, Karen Olander (Ed). She was blessed with eleven grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews and cousins. Donalyn will be greatly missed by all who knew her, and she cherished knowing everyone she met.

A Celebration of Life open house will be held in honor of Donalyn on Oct. 27th between 1:00pm and 4:00pm. Please RSVP to 925-872-2692 or brownhmm20@hotmail.com for details regarding location.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Alisal School PTA, 1454 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94566, Attn: PTA Treasurer. Please include her name in the memo line. For P.E.O. contributions, please make payable to "P.E.O. Chapter WB" with her name in the memo line, and send to: Martha Brown, Treasurer, P.E.O. Chapter WB 5514 Edna Ct. Livermore, CA 94550. Contributions will benefit the SHINE fund. This fund has been created for need-based High School senior women for educational expenses their first two years of college or those who attending a trade school or certification program.

PAID OBITUARY

TAKE US ALONG



Happy Birthday, Buddha: During a visit to South Korea, Emily, Lance and Julia Smith were surrounded by colorful lanterns installed around the temples to celebrate Buddha's birthday. Julia was in the middle of a semester abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul.

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 candidates debate

Tax measure, water, public safety, housing, local economy
among hot topics at mayoral and council forums

STORIES AND PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Mayor: Jack Balch vs. Karla Brown

Pleasanton mayoral candidates Karla Brown and Jack Balch faced off last week during a public forum where the two shared their views on important issues such as the proposed sales tax measure, housing developments and water.

Brown — the incumbent who is seeking a third term as mayor — argued that since she stepped in as mayor during the COVID-19 pandemic in late 2020, she has made being Pleasanton's mayor her full time job and noted all of her achievements as reasons she deserves the nomination in November.

"I've been influential in bringing in new businesses to Pleasanton ... we brought a huge employer and a tax base," Brown said regarding the 10x Genomics expansion. "We are (also) home to some of the fastest growing companies in the country."

Balch, a current City Council member, said he is running for mayor because he believes the city needs a fresh start with a new leader who will focus on fiscal responsibility, public safety and community engagement.

"Pleasanton is an extraordinary place, but we are at a crossroads," Balch said. "The challenges we face ... rising cost of living, stretched public safety resources and misdirected spending, demand proactive leadership that's willing to ask tough questions and listen to you, our community."

Hosted in-person at the Pleasanton Civic Center on the evening of Sept. 5, along with a livestream option, the forum was moderated by Pleasanton Weekly publisher Gina Channell Wilcox and editorial director Jeremy Walsh. A standing-room-only audience watched as both candidates gave their opening statements, responded to 10 questions from the moderators, and presented closing pitches and rebuttals.

The hour-long forum opened up with a discussion regarding the "Pleasanton Essential Services Protection Measure" — a half-cent sales tax increase that the council majority voted to place on the November ballot in order to address a structural deficit that the city staff say will threaten cuts to things like first responders, recreation and other quality of life services.

Brown, who was part of the council majority who voted in favor of placing the revenue measure on the ballot, said she did so in order to

let the voters decide whether they want to increase the city's sales tax from 10.25% to 10.75%.

And as a voter herself, she said she will be joining the city's police, fire and city staff unions in support of Measure PP because it is the only way Pleasanton will be able to maintain certain services and amenities that residents have grown accustomed to having.

She said even though she helped bring in millions of dollars in grants to the city, those and other one-time funding solutions won't help tackle a structural deficit projected in the tens of millions that could result in the city getting rid of one of its fire stations.

"There are many reasons why we've gotten into this fiscal situation ... but one of them is increased expenses," Brown said. "Another one is we're seeing much less revenue coming out of the Stoneridge Mall and the third is rising pension costs."

Balch — who was the only councilmember who voted against placing the revenue measure on this year's ballot — on the other hand said the city had multiple opportunities in the past to save money and that they as city leaders needed to do more work on balancing the budget before turning to residents and asking them to pay more out of their pockets.

"We saw the budget crisis coming," Balch said. "I spoke more than two years about the declining problems in our budget and tried to get my fellow councilmembers to alter the course of the spending to adjust and save and make minor cuts."

He said he has some trust issue with the city and does not yet know



Pleasanton City Councilmember Jack Balch and incumbent Mayor Karla Brown get ready to debate during the Pleasanton Weekly's 2024 mayoral forum on Sept. 5.

how he will be voting on Measure PP come November.

One of the questions that came from the public near the end of the debate was what the two candidates would do if the sales tax increase does not pass in November. The city has already made it known of its back-up plan to make further extreme cuts across various city departments.

Balch said the city has known

tough financial times were coming since 2018 and that while he does not have all the answers to Pleasanton's obvious budget issues, he has some ideas that, with time, might work.

He said that while the city will still need to take a closer look at where it can make some cuts to its budget — maintaining the Century House was one thing he questioned — they should look at updating

developer fees, passing along credit card fees and working with the school district to ensure housing is built so that the city can cash in on those impact fees.

Brown said while the city's Section 115 Pension Trust Fund, which was set up years ago to pay down the city's unfunded liability and proactively stabilize its pension costs in the long term — will help the city's budget, it won't be enough to the city from having to make some serious cuts if the revenue measure doesn't pass.

"It is going to be painful, it is going to be difficult ... and that's why I think it should be your decision," Brown said regarding the revenue measure.

She said one thing the city might even have to look into would be potentially selling the Century House or cutting back on the city's grass-cutting services.

While the revenue measure was one of the hottest topics during last week's forum, another major topic of contention was housing.

Balch said he believes there is a housing problem and that Pleasanton needs to specifically look at ways to ensure younger generations can secure affordable



Dozens of Pleasanton residents and voters packed the council chambers to hear the two candidates talk about why each believes they would be the best choice for the city's next mayor.

Council District 2: Valerie Arkin vs. Craig Eicher

The race for the District 2 City Council seat could have reached a tipping point for many Pleasanton residents last week as the two candidates shared their views on issues like water, economic vitality and, more notably, the proposed half-cent sales tax revenue measure that will be on the November ballot.

Incumbent Councilmember Valerie Arkin, who was first elected at-large to the council in 2020, is running against retired Pleasanton Police Capt. Craig Eicher, who also served as the city's interim police chief during a six-month stint between 2019 and 2020.

The two participated in a public forum where, in front of a nearly packed room at City Hall on Sept. 5, they gave opening remarks as to why they are the best choice for the job and responded to a number of questions that were generated by Pleasanton Weekly moderators Gina Channell Wilcox and Jeremy Walsh and from the public.

Arkin said during her opener that during her time on the council, she helped balance the city's budget while preserving essential services for all residents, implemented policies for safe drinking water and has done much more for the city's economy and overall quality of life.

She also pointed to her dedication

to transparency, to building consensus on the dais and to the Pleasanton Unified School District for which she served as a board trustee for 12 years.

"I have the experience, knowledge, background and education and I know how to collaborate to get things done," Arkin said. "I'm the most qualified candidate with a record of prudent leadership."

Eicher said as a new councilmember, if elected he would strive to maintain some of the historical values and practices that make Pleasanton a great community while also navigating the challenges the city is facing today and in the future.

"I'd like to promote stability and affordability for residents and business alike by ensuring the city operates within a balanced budget and minimizes the need for additional tax burdens," Eicher said.

He also said that given his long history with law enforcement, he plans on maintaining a robust police presence and supporting the police department as it continues to deal with a staffing shortage in order to ensure better response times and the public's safety.

Arkin said that when it came to public safety, she knew all Pleasanton residents want a safe community — she referred to a recent community survey where



District 2 candidates incumbent City Councilmember Valerie Arkin and retired Pleasanton Police Capt. Craig Eicher before their debate begins.

93% of residents surveyed said they feel very safe or safe, which is also a lower number compared to 2017 when 98% of respondents said that.

She said she believes in strict oversight on the Pleasanton Police Department and said she was proud of her contribution on the council that worked to establish both the school resource officer and alternative response unit programs.

However, Eicher said he does not think the city is what it used to be when it comes to safety. He pointed out the increases in homicides and violent crimes over recent years and how stores now have to lock up certain items due to increases in burglaries.

He criticized the city for allowing the PPD to be understaffed for the past four years and said it should

not have taken the city this long to address that problem.

But the major issue where the two candidates for Pleasanton's northeast District 2 contrasted in opinions the most was the current council's decision to place a sales tax revenue measure on the November ballot

See **DISTRICT 2** on Page 14

Council District 4: Matt Gaidos vs. Vivek Mohan

The two District 4 City Council candidates showed voters at a public forum last week how divided their priorities were when it came to certain issues in their district, the city's finances and the status quo of how things are being run.

Pleasanton Planning Commission Chairperson Matt Gaidos and his fellow Planning Commissioner Vivek Mohan participated in the forum on Sept. 5 alongside the two District 2 candidates.

Each council candidate gave their opening remarks as to why they were the best fit for the job and responded to a handful of questions posed by moderators Gina Channell Wilcox and Jeremy Walsh of the Pleasanton Weekly. A nearly packed room of residents listened to the two council members go back and forth on topics including housing, water, the local economy and the city's budget.

Mohan said as a first-generation immigrant who has called Pleasanton his home for the past 12 years and who has been on the city's Housing and Planning commissions, he wants what is best for the city in order to maintain the quality of living.

But as he has gone around to speak with residents after announcing his candidacy, he has seen that a lot of the issues that were raised

during the election cycle two years ago — things like water, public safety and fiscal spending — have not changed, which is why he wants to be that change.

"Insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results," Mohan said. "We need to actually fix the process (and) we need to put the accountability where it's due."

Gaidos, a Pleasanton native who has lived in the city almost his whole life and who spent the last 16 years working as a prosecutor for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, was more measured in that he said he wasn't the type of person to ask people to vote for him.

He didn't talk about what the current council is doing right or wrong and instead focused on what his goals are if he is elected: holding criminals accountable, addressing the PFAS issue in the groundwater and using his experience to address other issues that come up one at a time.

"You ask me (about) a problem and how to fix it, I'm going to be the first one to tell you how I'm going to do it," Gaidos said. "Experience and local ties matter."

While Gaidos and Mohan have similar intentions to improve issues at the city, there were several issues discussed during the Sept.



Pleasanton planning commissioners Matt Gaidos and Vivek Mohan stand side-by-side as they prepare to discuss their priorities as City Council District 4 candidates at the Weekly's forum last week.

5 forum where the two did not see eye to eye.

The first major one was regarding the current City Council's decision to place a half-cent sales tax increase measure on the November ballot.

Gaidos said he hopes residents are first and foremost informed about the topic and pointed out how the city has never asked for such a revenue measure and how

other cities in the Bay Area are doing the same this election year.

He said raising taxes isn't something that he wants to do but that he will be voting in favor of Measure PP to ensure the city's financial future.

"Raising my taxes isn't something that I like to do or I want to do," Gaidos said. "But I ask you to compare the amenities ... that we have in Pleasanton and what it would

mean for us to be able to continue keeping our reserves and make your own informed decision."

Mohan also mentioned that ensuring the city maintains its budget reserves is important, but he said the public does not have to be the city's ATM.

He said he vehemently opposes the tax increase not just because

See **DISTRICT 4** on Page 14

DISTRICT 2

Continued from Page 13

Eicher said he is opposed to Measure PP because he believes the city should focus on finding other solutions to balance the budget. He said it isn't fair that the city is asking residents to pay more taxes during a time of inflation before it looks internally to reduce unnecessary spending.

"When I look at what the spending looks like in the budget, (the city's) budget looks fine," Eicher said. "It's the addition of all the new capital expenditures ... that are increasing the cost of the budget."

He said the city could have also looked at using the city's Section 115 Pension Trust Fund reserves to help the city's finances and that moving forward, it should look at other ways to meet its budgetary needs.

Arkin, who was part of the council majority who supported placing the revenue measure on the ballot, said she believes the city needs to pass Measure PP because the lasting impacts from the cuts that would occur if the half-cent sales tax doesn't increase will be significant.

"We have a \$13 million-a-year structural deficit that is projected for the next eight years," Arkin said.

"We have already cut \$2.5 million out of our budget," she added. "Can we cut more, of course we can, and we will to balance our budget because we have to ... but those impacts will be felt by the community."

She said not passing the revenue measure will affect businesses, downtown and residents' overall quality of life as the city looks for services and other departments to make cuts.

Arkin also argued against Eicher's suggestion to use pension reserves saying the Section 115 fund is an investment fund that the city shouldn't use all at once.

Water quality and supply was another topic that resonated as a top priority for both candidates.

Arkin said while she did vote against the recent water rates increase, it is nice to see the city's water enterprise fund reserves getting replenished so that the city can continue to focus on analyzing two potential new wells alongside the Zone 7 Water Agency as a way to address the PFAS — also known as forever chemicals — in the region's groundwater basin.

Eicher on the other hand said that those efforts should have happened years ago when the city first found out about the contaminated groundwater in 2019.

He also criticized the city's economic vibrancy saying that it has gone down in the past few years and said the city needs to be asking what barriers there are to see why businesses are not coming to the city.

Like his opponent, Eicher also touched on the Stoneridge Shopping Center redevelopment plans to include housing and said that project needs to move forward — both candidates said the mall redevelopment plans will have a big part in helping the economy, if the mall owners can work together to get the framework completed.

But the two candidates near the end did find common ground when asked if there were any specific issues they felt were most important in their district. Instead of calling any single issue out, they both noted how if they are elected,

they will work on representing the entire city because any issues felt in District 2, are most likely being felt throughout Pleasanton.

On the topic of housing, Eicher promoted the idea of appropriate development locations — especially when it comes to building in District 2, which is mostly residential — and creating affordable housing for teachers and first responders so they can live where they work.

Arkin also said that affordable housing is a top priority for her and criticized developers who get out of building affordable housing by paying in-lieu fees that basically allow them to pay the city out of building those types of housing units.

See the candidates' responses to all questions in the forum video on the Pleasanton Weekly's YouTube page. ■

DISTRICT 4

Continued from Page 13

he doesn't like paying more taxes, but because he believes the city has not spent enough time looking for other solutions that would help make taxpayers' lives easier.

"Insurance rates are going up, water rates are going up and if you look everywhere, the citizens are being asked to do more, pay more," Mohan said. "California has one of the highest tax rates in the country. How much more do you want from us?"

He said he believes the city can still find ways to cut costs and that as a person who has run several organizations in the past which have been in similar financial struggles, he said he doesn't believe the city

needs to be asking for an increase in its sales tax.

Mohan made it a point several times during the forum that several issues are being regurgitated during this election cycle that were not addressed since the last cycle two years ago.

One example he gave was with the forever chemicals — commonly known as PFAS — in the city's groundwater basin. Mohan said the topic has been a big issue for the last four years and wondered why nothing substantive has been done.

He also criticized the council majority's decision to increase the city's water rates and said he was disappointed with how the city engaged with the community during those several months last year. He said there needs to be more

transparency moving forward when it comes to those types of decisions.

Gaidos on the other hand, said the city — and even himself personally — have been working hard on addressing the problem. He said he has been sitting down with engineers and geologists as recent as the week of the forum to discuss these contamination issues.

He said while the city is working on the issue, he still believes that it continues to be a top priority that he would like to tackle if he is elected to the council.

When it came to promoting economic development and vibrancy, the two candidates had several ideas but both had similar ideas of looking at attracting more businesses to come to Pleasanton by analyzing what, if any, restrictions

there are — especially in the city's Downtown Specific Plan — for potential businesses on Main Street.

As for public safety, Gaidos said as someone who spends countless hours in court as a prosecutor he wants to be the voice of the council to close the gap with the DA's office so criminals are held accountable. For Mohan, the emphasis for public safety was in supporting Pleasanton police officers who have told him they are leaving due to better pay and because they don't feel respected by the city and those in city hall.

One of the most notable topics for Pleasanton's southeastern District 4 in particular that the two candidates brought up were PG&E power outages.

Gaidos said that while the city has been doing a good job in addressing

those issues with the utility company, he has spoken with neighbors who have told him they have gone without power for several days at a time. He said if elected, he promises to be loud if he hears about constituents going through those issues.

Mohan also said that those blackouts, which as he noted happen a lot during summer, are an important topic for him and are not a "first-world problem" — referring to a descriptor Gaidos used earlier in the forum.

See the candidates' responses to all questions in the forum video on the Pleasanton Weekly's YouTube page. The District 4 position is wide open this year as the current seat holder, Jack Balch, is running for mayor instead of reelection to a regular council seat. ■

MAYOR

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housing in the city because, currently, he said they are not doing enough for them.

"We can get into the driver's seat of housing a lot better than what we choose to do," he said. "It's got to be proactive ... not reactive."

Brown on the other hand talked about the city slowly relinquishing its local control when it came to housing developments over the past couple of years and how Pleasanton's ability to keep its small-town charm has slowly gone away.

She did previously mention how the city has made efforts to boost housing during its recent sixth Housing Element cycle by working with the Stoneridge Shopping Center owners to bring housing around the mall.

But the discussion further tensed when it came to talk about Pleasanton's east side and the two large housing projects that were recently submitted for development with Alameda County.

Brown said that when the city was determining sites to zone for

housing during its latest Housing Element cycle, transit was a huge point when it came to choosing sites.

She also said she was on the task force for east side development in 2016 and that in the past, thousands of residents complained about developments in that area because of the proximity those developments would be to the drinking water supply at the Zone 7 Water Agency Chain of Lakes.

She said, however, that she is interested in learning more about the possibility of annexing those two unincorporated projects that are being proposed in the area — the council will discuss the annexation at a later date after city staff gather enough information.

Balch, an avid supporter of development in East Pleasanton, countered by saying that while neighborhoods in that area will present its own challenges, the city knew developers were looking into building housing in that area years ago and should have began asking questions at that time because now the approximately 800 units of housing could impact residents and the city

in a negative way.

Another pressing item for the two mayoral candidates was water quality and supply. While the two had similar goals, they did not see eye to eye on certain aspects.

One major water issue was rates. Balch said the council did not challenge enough the water rate increase that was meant to replenish the city's Water Enterprise Fund while Brown said those increases were the only way to ensure the enterprise fund remained fiscally solvent.

The two also clashed on the city's economic vitality.

Brown said she doesn't believe downtown is outdated and that Main Street weekend closures and the Pleasanton Downtown Association are keeping the city's downtown vibrant. She also said big businesses like 10x Genomics coming to the city in recent years is helping the city's tax base and is bringing more jobs to the city.

Balch, on the other hand, criticized the city's Downtown Specific Plan by saying it makes it too hard for diverse businesses to move into the downtown area. He said

businesses pass on moving in because of the city's active ground-floor policy and that businesses are changing, which means the city needs to as well.

The two also did not agree on concerns regarding decorum at the dais. In the past, Balch and Brown had notable disagreements that resulted in them speaking over each other. Brown said she believes the conflicts are being exaggerated and that she runs clean and respectful meetings.

Balch countered they should "call a spade a spade" regarding the lack of decorum sometimes — however, he said he does try his best to control himself in these situations because he is there to serve the public.

During closing statements, Balch said during his time as a councilmember for these past four years, he has learned how to listen to concerns about rising costs, public safety and responsible growth and is running for mayor because he believes he is the best candidate to represent the city's values in a transparent and accountable manner.

"Do you want a leadership that

maintains the status quo?" Balch asked. "Or do you want a leadership that challenges the status quo?"

Brown used her closing remarks to refute claims about the city closing the library, public pools or that the city won't be receiving money from the new Costco being built — she assured the city will be receiving funds from the new business.

She said there was a lot of misinformation going around, and that as a person who has been in city government for 12 years, she trusts city staff with the budget because they have the city's best intentions.

Brown also used her closing to criticize Balch's past actions on the council, some of his talking points and his support for the city to pay — as she put it — "the most expensive energy available" with Ava Community Energy (Balch is the chair of the Ava Community Energy Joint Powers Authority).

"Is this really where we are at?" Brown said, regarding Balch's candidacy.

See the candidates' responses to all questions in the forum video on the Pleasanton Weekly's YouTube page. ■



Festival celebrating end of summer at Emerald Glen Park this Saturday

By JEREMY WALSH

The city is again looking to bring Dublin together for an end-of-summer festival celebrating the multi-cultural community.

Billed as “equal parts food, art, wine, music, and dance from around the world,” the annual Splatter celebration is set to return this Saturday (Sept. 14) from 12-8:30 p.m. in Emerald Glen Park. The festival will also feature an evening dance party and a drone light show as the grand finale.

“For over a decade, Splatter has brought neighbors together to celebrate one of Dublin’s greatest strengths — our diversity,” Mayor Michael McCorriston told the Pleasanton Weekly. “Whether you’re a Dubliner or visiting from a nearby city, we invite everyone to come out and enjoy music, art, food, and multicultural performances in a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere.”

City Manager Linda Smith, who is in her last weeks on the job in Dublin before moving to Orinda, said, “Splatter is a perfect example of Dublin’s vibrant community spirit. Since the annual festival started in 2012, I’ve had the pleasure of witnessing both the hard work behind the scenes and the joy of those enjoying the event. While this will be my final Splatter as city manager, it certainly won’t be my last as a resident.”

The free festival is designed as wide-ranging and family-friendly with art activities, live music and dance from many cultures, unique art installations, a culinary marketplace and a world craft bazaar, along with children’s carnival rides and games.

The food and drink options will include “The

Rose Lounge - VIP Experience”, offering a “private, velvet-roped lounge will feature interactive food stations, elevated wine and beer tastings, unique roaming entertainment, a private dance floor, and a front row seat to the 250-drone light show,” according to city officials. “The Rose Lounge” passports are limited.

On the park’s Main Stage, Prince cover group The Purple Ones will open the music at noon, followed by Livermore Valley bluegrass and folk band Crawdad Republic at 2 p.m., and then Taylor Swift tribute Twist on Taylor at 4 p.m. and Mustache Harbor closing starting at 6:30 p.m.

Cultural performances of dance and music will be at the forefront in the Emerald Glen Park Amphitheater, including presentations by Xiaopei Chinese Dance; Halau Makana Lani, featuring the Hawaiian art of hula; Ballet Folklorico Costa de Oro; Riar Academy of Performing Arts; and Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers, city officials said.

Taking to the Side Yard Stage throughout the afternoon will include the likes of Dublin poet laureate James Morehead, Kung Fu USA, The 5.25 band and Bhangra Dance, according to the city. Roaming entertainers, interactive art activities and art demonstrations will also occur across the festival grounds.

High school artists will have their work on display nearby inside The Wave at Emerald Glen Park as part of the “High Life” exhibition organized by the Dublin Arts Collective, running from 1-5 p.m. Saturday.

Civically minded residents can also share their input on an upcoming park project while at Splatter. From 3-6 p.m., people can give



COURTESY CITY OF DUBLIN

Dublin is holding its annual Splatter festival, a celebration of the multi-cultural community, on Saturday afternoon and evening at Emerald Glen Park.

feedback along “Sponsor Row” about the design concepts for two neighborhood parks in the planned Francis Ranch development — separate park parcels at about 5.5 acres each.

The city is also plugging smart planning when it comes to Splatter attendance logistics. Officials note that parking is limited in the south parking lot off Central Parkway. Street parking will be available on Central Parkway and Gleason Drive, along with offsite event

parking at the East County Hall of Justice lot as well as at Fallon Sports Park from where a free, continuous shuttle will run to the festival.

Attendees should also consider downloading the “DublinCAEvent” app to stay up-to-date on scheduling and other information, officials said. Splatter is put on each year by the city’s Parks and Community Services Department, with sponsorship support from local businesses. Find out more at www.dublinsplatter.com. ■

Police drummer Copeland, 'Princess Bride' star Elwes at Bankhead

Magic with Carbonaro, comedy with Blue and Tony Bennett tribute also on tap now for 2025

By JEREMY WALSH

In need of a jolt of live entertainment options for 2025? "As you wish" — it seems Livermore Valley Arts schedulers are saying.

The nonprofit just announced a slate of five new performers added to the Bankhead Theater's calendar for March through June, a list headlined by a presentation by famed drummer Stewart Copeland, an original member of The Police, and two shows with actor Cary Elwes reflecting on his experience making "The Princess Bride".

"There is truly something for everyone in these five starry performances, with these world-renowned talents up close and personal right here at the intimate and beautiful Bankhead," LVA reps said in a press release last week.

First up will be Copeland's "Have I Said Too Much: The Police, Hollywood and Other Adventures" on March 5, a replacement guest for

the Rae Dorough Speaker Series after punk music legend John Lydon (aka Johnny Rotten) canceled his North American tour.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame member and multiple-time Grammy Award winner will share stories from his rise drumming in clubs to international fame with The Police to making movie soundtracks, authoring books, composing for opera, ballet and classical music and more, according to LVA.

Two nights later, singer Michael Feinstein will present "Because of You: My Tribute to Tony Bennett featuring the Carnegie Hall Ensemble".

"Feinstein's dynamic interpretations, coupled with the grandeur of the big band, will create an unforgettable night that honors the legacy of Tony Bennett in all its glory," LVA reps said. "Not only does Feinstein's masterful interpretation of Bennett's timeless repertoire pay homage to an era of classic songwriting, but it also

preserves the rich cultural heritage that these songs represent."

"The Princess Bride", Rob Reiner's acclaimed 1987 movie adaptation of William Goldman's book of the same name, will be the talk of Livermore on May 10 — and who better to lead the conversation than Elwes, who starred as Westley in the film.

The Bankhead will screen the movie and then present a moderated discussion with Elwes "revealing never before shared secrets and tales of inconceivable antics," LVA reps said. In fact, it will all happen twice that day: 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

On May 16, magic will be back in downtown Livermore as Michael Carbonaro leads his "Lies On Stage" performance at the Bankhead. The star of "The Carbonaro Effect" on TV "continues to showcase his unmatched blend of humor and charisma along with inventive illusions which amaze audiences of all ages," LVA reps said.



COURTESY LVA

Hall of Fame drummer Stewart Copeland, a founder of The Police among his many professional credits, is set to share stories from his life and career at the Bankhead Theater on March 5.

The last new addition will play Livermore on June 6, a comedy set by Josh Blue on his "The Freak Accident Tour". An alumnus of both "Last Comic Standing" and the U.S. Paralympic Soccer Team, "Josh does over 200 shows a year, continuing to spread laughter and break down stereotypes of people

with disabilities. His stand-up routine is in a constant state of evolution and his off-the-cuff improvisational skills guarantee that no two shows are alike," LVA officials said.

For more information about the shows, including tickets, go to livermorearts.org. ■

Ghost Walk back in downtown for spooky season

Popular museum program brings local lore to life in October

By JEREMY WALSH

With the Halloween season soon upon Pleasanton, the Museum on Main is preparing for the return of its popular, interactive Ghost Walk series next month.

Presented on four fall evenings, the program offers a family-friendly guided tour of the "most haunted sites along Main Street" — complete with actors in costume as figures of local lore, electromagnetic field testing and spooky tales from the "ghost hosts," according to museum officials.

"Ghost Walk has successfully brought the haunted side of Pleasanton to 'life' through the stories and experiences collected over the years from psychics, ghost hunters and downtown merchants and workers. It is a unique experience, more spooky than scary, with lots of atmosphere and no jump scares," said Rachel Brickell, the museum's director of education.

Now more than 15 years old, the Ghost Walk allows residents and visitors of all ages to meet some of the prominent spirits of downtown and hear their haunting stories straight from the source — courtesy of adult actors and youth performers from Pleasanton's Creatures of Impulse improvisation troupe.

"The improv students have been a wonderful addition to Ghost Walk. They bring so much energy to the program and we can't wait to share this year's talent with participants," Brickell added.



COURTESY MUSEUM ON MAIN

Gertrude Ellis (portrayed by Cynthia Lagodzinski), the Rose Hotel ghost, tells of her life after she married into the prominent Pleasanton family.

The tour guides will lead the groups around nine haunted locations, with a K2 Electromagnetic Field Meter in hand to look for EMF spikes that might indicate activity or communication from the other side, museum officials noted.

The two-hour tours will run on the evenings of Oct. 11-12 and Oct. 18-19, with one group leaving every 30 minutes between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. (five sessions per night). They will be held rain or shine, so organizers urge participants to dress accordingly.

Halloween costumes are also highly encouraged, they said.

Most of the tour will be outdoors, but in a few spots people will be able to go inside the haunted building, including two locations where use of stairs is required to access the ghosts.

Tickets are on sale now, and they often sell out well before the tours begin. For more information, go to museumonmain.org, call 925-462-2766 or visit the museum at 603 Main St. ■



COURTESY HARMONY FUSION

Harmony Fusion, an all-women's a cappella group based in the East Bay.

A cappella tryout with Harmony Fusion

'If you have a good ear for music, we want you'

By JEREMY WALSH

Bay Area female a cappella vocal ensemble Harmon Fusion, which draws members from the Tri-Valley, is hosting a special open rehearsal guest night for prospective singers throughout the region later this month.

While each of its Monday evening rehearsals in Hayward are open to guests, the Sept. 23 session will present an opportunity for newcomers to show their stuff and sing barbershop-style — including up "on the risers to experience the joy of 'ringing chords' together" — with the rest of award-winning group, according to organizers.

"If you have a good ear for music, we want you," Harmony Fusion membership chair Joanne Morrison, a Livermore resident, said in a press release. "We're looking for women who love to sing and are interested in performing, chorus competitions and improving their vocal skills."

"We welcome all singers with or without choral experience to the guest night to find out if Harmony Fusion is a good fit for them. We are eager to share the sisterhood of a cappella with our guests. The ability to read music is not required," Morrison added.

A chapter of Sweet Adelines International, Harmony Fusion has been performing out of the East Bay for more than 50 years and has been directed by Barbara Vander Putten since 2007. "Music education in Barbershop singing is the mission of Sweet Adelines, but the organization also provides opportunities to sing in other styles," she noted.

The interactive open rehearsal night is set for 7-9:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Hill and Valley Women's Club at 1808 B St. in Hayward. Learn more at harmonyfusion.org. ■

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Police arrest two teens in Dublin High School beating

Dublin Police Services last Friday announced the arrests of an 18-year-old man and 17-year-old boy in the attack on a Dublin High School student, reportedly connecting more dots in the high-profile assault in a campus locker room from two weeks earlier.

The police investigation alleges conflicts between a female relative of the 17-year-old arrestee and the victim escalated into a confrontation after school at Dublin High involving the girl's mother and ultimately the beating by up to four teenage individuals on Aug. 23.

"Dublin Police Services' School Resource Officers are leading the investigation and are continuing to identify the additional suspects, locate further video footage, and

gather witness leads, as well as determining a motive for the attack," Capt. Miguel Campos said in a press release on Friday (Sept. 6).

"The female student and her mother were not involved in the physical attack and, at this time, it does not appear the mother coordinated the attack," Campos added.

The captain said investigators arrested 18-year-old Gerald Coats, a former Dublin Unified School district student, on suspicion of felony assault, child abuse and trespassing as well as a 17-year-old former DUSD student, whose name was not released, on suspicion of felony assault.

Police reported that Coats might be acquainted with the victim — whom police previously described as 15 years old, but his mother has told other local news media including KTVU that he is a 14-year-old freshman at Dublin High.

The assault on Aug. 23 made headlines across the Bay Area and beyond, in part with principal Maureen Byrne initially — and apparently

incorrectly — stating the assailants were five adults who made their way onto the campus and with the fight having been broken up by the football team, including head coach Napoleon Kaufman, a former NFL running back.

In a statement four days after the attack, police countered the principal's assertion by saying there were four unidentified assailants — likely all teenagers between 16-19 years old — and the parent involved in the initial argument at the school did not enter the boys' locker room and participate in the beating.

Revealing more details from the DPS investigation, Campos said on Friday that there had been previous conflicts between the victim and the female student, and the girl and her mother confronted the victim about the conflicts that afternoon. The girl and her mother did not take part in the ensuing physical attack, according to the captain.

The boy sought refuge in the locker room but was followed and beaten by four individuals wearing hoodies just before 3:30 p.m. until members of the football team and coaching staff broke it up and the culprits ran away, police and school officials previously reported. The victim sustained face and head injuries, getting

transported to an area hospital for treatment and released that afternoon, police said.

Campos said the investigation remains active and anyone with information, including video footage, should contact DPS at 925-933-6670.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- The jury trial in a child sexual abuse case against former San Ramon Valley teacher and cheer coach Nicholas Moseby has been delayed yet again, with all parties set to meet later in the month to confer on a new start date.

The trial, initially scheduled for November 2023, has now been rescheduled a total of five times so far. Most recently, it had been set to kick off on Tuesday.

That date has since been vacated, according to court records, with the defense having asked for additional time to prepare and for a new court date to be set, according to a spokesperson from the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office.

The delays have been for various reasons related to scheduling, according to the DA's office, with the court having been unable to accommodate the trial on its previously

scheduled Aug. 12 date, which was set after the previous June 24 trial date faced a scheduling conflict between the judge in the case and an expert the defense was seeking to employ.

Prior to that, the trial had been set for March 18 and rescheduled due to a conflict with other cases that the judge and Moseby's attorneys were involved in.

Now all parties are set to meet next Thursday (Sept. 19) in order to discuss a new date that the defense and prosecution, as well as the courts, can all accommodate.

Moseby has pleaded not guilty to the seven charges for alleged sexual abuse and harassment of minors. He was first arrested in September 2022, and subsequently removed from his position as a biology teacher at Diablo Vista Middle School, on charges brought by the DA's office on a case that now involves multiple victims. Moseby, 43, of Concord was also a private cheer coach in San Ramon.

Although online court records currently show a "change of plea" entry in the case, the DA's spokesperson said that there has been no plea change contemplated and the case is still set to proceed to trial. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Sept. 6

Warrant arrest

■ 8:51 a.m. on the 4500 block of Chabot Drive

Domestic battery

■ 12:07 p.m. on Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

■ 9:19 p.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Sept. 5

Vandalism

■ 8:29 a.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

■ 9:27 a.m. on the 7000 block of Pleasanton Avenue

Theft

■ 11:38 a.m., 3400 block of Cornerstone Court; theft from auto

■ 12:30 p.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Drive

■ 12:39 p.m., 1100 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

Warrant arrest

■ 8:08 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Sept. 4

Warrant arrest

■ 7:11 a.m. at West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa Rita Road

Shoplifting

■ 10:30 a.m. on the 5700 block of Johnson Drive

Domestic battery

■ 6:26 p.m. on Owens Drive

■ 6:58 p.m. on Main Street

Robbery

■ 9:29 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Sept. 3

Burglary

■ 9:07 a.m. on the 5600 block of Owens Drive

■ 12:19 p.m. on the 3100 block of Valley Avenue

Vandalism

■ 10:27 a.m. on the 5600 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Assault/battery

■ 10:53 a.m. on the 5800 block of Parkside Drive

Shoplifting

■ 4:07 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 2

Robbery

■ 2:54 p.m. at Harrison Street and Bernal Court

Theft

■ 6:04 p.m. on the 1400 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Sept. 1

Burglary

■ 7:35 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Theft

■ 12:25 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 2:24 p.m. on the 6700 block of Bernal Avenue

Vandalism

■ 5:46 p.m. on the 4000 block of Jensen Street

■ 8:48 p.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

Aug. 31

Theft

■ 6:23 a.m., 3300 block of Smoketree Commons Drive; auto theft

■ 10:41 a.m., 7600 block of Canyon Meadows Circle; auto theft

■ 11:01 a.m. on the 5500 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

■ 12:18 p.m., 2200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 1:19 p.m. on the 2500 block of Tapestry Way

■ 7:59 p.m. on the 3300 block of Smoketree Commons Drive

■ 10:28 p.m. on the 3200 block of Marilyn Court

Burglary

■ 7:13 a.m. on the 6600 block of Koll Center Parkway

■ 2:43 p.m. on the 3200 block of Vineyard Avenue

Graffiti offense

■ 10:43 a.m. on the 300 block of Christina Court



CITY OF DUBLIN

Mayoral and Council Candidates' Forum

JOIN US

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Chabot-Las Positas Community College
District, Dublin Professional Center

7600 Dublin Blvd., Dublin

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

MAYORAL CANDIDATES:
6 to 7:15 p.m.

COUNCIL CANDIDATES
7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

HOSTED BY Pleasanton Weekly

MAYORAL CANDIDATES



Shawn
Costello



Tom
Evans



Sherry
Hu



Jean
Josey



Razi
Hasni



John
Morada

DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES

LEARN MORE: PleasantonWeekly.com/election-forums/

To submit questions for consideration,
scan code or visit tinyurl.com/CityofDublin-council



By MARY JO CARREON

The budget challenges we all face together

Our Board of Trustees is committed to informing you with transparency on upcoming financial challenges ahead. I value our partnership and collaboration and look forward to working together with you to address these challenges.

I moved to Pleasanton 30 years ago for a teaching position and because I wanted to have my own children go to our excellent schools. My family has greatly benefited from the schools and I want to have our schools continue to be the best. There are some pressing issues that you need to be aware of.

First, all schools were given COVID funding; Pleasanton received \$41 million over the last four years. That money paid for additional counselors, wellness centers, additional sections and support at our schools. The federal government is no longer supplying that money even though the need remains the same.

Second, we need to attract and retain talent. Our teachers and staff make the difference in providing an outstanding education. Providing our students with effective teachers and staff is a priority so we need to have funds to compensate them.

Third, all across the state and country schools have declining enrollment. The state pays us by the number of students we have. For every loss of 100 students, we lose \$1.2 million. Currently, we have a loss of 1,650 students.

Fourth, we are all feeling the effects of high inflation and low cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) from the state, where we receive the majority of our funding. For our area, inflation over the last two years is 8.1% yet the COLA provided by the



state this year is only 1%.

Fifth, we are a low funded district. California uses an equity-based formula to allocate funding to school districts across the state. For Pleasanton this means that as a fairly affluent community, our funding remains stagnant regardless of how much property taxes or home prices go up. As a result, nine out of 10 districts in the state receive more money than Pleasanton.

This is not only a Pleasanton problem; districts everywhere are experiencing this loss of revenue. However, we have a community that I know will work together to address this challenge. Currently, we have a Budget Advisory Committee and they are helping us examine our budget and generating ideas for reductions and looking for creative ways to generate income.

How can you help? The main way is for you to just understand our financial situation and know that we

have tough times ahead and difficult decisions we have to make. Also, I have learned over the years that our community wants to be part of the solution so if you have ideas, suggestions or questions please email us. The bigger issue is how schools are funded, so any lobbying of our elected officials would be helpful as well.

If you would like more detailed information about our budget you can go to pleasantonusd.net. Thank you for your time and support. As always we remain committed to providing the best education for our students. ■

Editor's note: Mary Jo Carreon is currently serving as board president in her first term on the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees. A retired teacher with more than 25 years of experience in Pleasanton schools, Carreon is poised to start a second term on the board in December after being the only person to file for the Trustee Area 1 seat.

GUEST OPINION

By OLIVIA SANWONG

An olive branch to Livermore: Strengthening partnerships for our parks and natural resources

Recently, The Independent published several articles about the 1992 tax-sharing agreement between the East Bay Regional Park District and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

While they acknowledged that LARPD reduced its initial claim of "missing \$200M" by 62.5%, inaccuracies remain, suggesting EBRPD has not effectively served taxpayers. This commentary aims to clarify the situation, recognize EBRPD's 90 years of accomplishments, and extend an olive branch to the Livermore community as we embark on our 2nd Century District Plan.

EBRPD's financial reports are publicly available, and our consistent receipt of the Distinguished Budget Award underscores our commitment to financial responsibility. If LARPD had concerns, direct communication with EBRPD would have been more practical. As of last Friday, no one from LARPD had contacted EBRPD regarding the tax-sharing agreement, according to our general manager.

It's worth noting that The Independent began August with

a positive article about EBRPD's helicopter unit's relocation to Livermore Airport and our swift response to incidents such as the Altamont Pass fire and a missing hiker search. However, by the end of August, the focus shifted to criticisms of EBRPD.

It is also disappointing that neither The Independent nor LARPD acknowledged the passing of our board member, Ellen Corbett, on Aug. 9. Ellen had family ties to Livermore, often mentioning her relative, a Livermore Valley vintner. While the California State Senate and other East Bay agencies paid tribute to Ellen in August, LARPD focused on "scrutinizing" EBRPD instead.

As the second woman to serve as California State Senate majority leader, Ellen was a trailblazer who significantly contributed to our community. We reflected on her legacy at our Sept. 3 meeting and honored her memory.

In addition, we approved an agreement with the City of Livermore, allowing the Tri-Valley Conservancy to hold a 211-acre easement and endowment at Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve

between Dublin and Livermore.

As the EBRPD director for the Livermore area, I'm proud of the enriching opportunities we provide, including Del Valle, Shadow Cliffs, Brushy Peak, Ohlone Wilderness and Camp Arroyo, along with our LARPD Sycamore Grove partnership. EBRPD manages over 126,000 acres across 73 parks in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, including the multi-jurisdictional 28-mile Ohlone Wilderness Trail from Del Valle to Mission Peak in Fremont.

Del Valle Regional Park's entrance is located south of Livermore and spans 4,395 acres. In 1968, the California Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built the Del Valle Dam, creating Lake Del Valle for flood control, irrigation, water supply and recreation. EBRPD offers various recreational activities at Del Valle, including a visitor center that showcases Lake Del Valle's role in our water system.

This complements the visitor center at Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley, located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region. Big Break features a 1,200-square-foot map illustrating Delta water flow, vital to Livermore as the Delta supplies water to Lake Del Valle via the South Bay Aqueduct.

As EBRPD celebrates our 90th anniversary this year, we are excited to launch the development of our 2nd Century District Plan. This plan will address future challenges while upholding our commitment to stewardship of our natural resources and financial responsibility.



We recognize that achieving this mission requires collaboration with all our partners, including those in the Livermore area. We invite Livermore to join us in shaping our 2nd Century District Plan to ensure our parks thrive for future generations. ■

Editor's note: Olivia Sanwong, who was born in Livermore and has lived most of her life in Pleasanton, was elected to her first term as director of EBRPD Ward 5 in 2022. She served as an elected Zone 7 Water Agency director from 2018-22, including as board president from 2020-21.

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BY DENNIS MILLER

Foothill girls bounce back in second week of volleyball season

Amador girls' and boys' water polo each open EBAL play with decisive wins over Livermore

When the Foothill girls' volleyball team uncharacteristically lost the first two games of the non-league season, there was no need to panic.

And the patience paid off the second week of the season, as the Falcons ran off a series of wins and advanced to the finals of the very strong East County Tournament on Sept. 7.

In the championship match, Foothill fell to Marin Catholic 22-25, 25-16, 13-15.

To advance to the finals, Foothill beat Campolindo (2-0), Tamalpais (2-1), Carondelet (2-1) and Rocklin (2-0).

Kaycie Burdick, Paige Nelson, Kait Vogel, Brooke Stedman, Lulu Hoenninger, Sophia Burdick and freshman libero Olivia So all played well.

Earlier in the week, the Falcons beat Campolindo 25-11, 25-20, 25-14 in

a non-league match. Kaycie Burdick (18 kills, 7 digs), Nelson (17 assists, 7 kills, 7 digs, 6 aces) and Vogel (10 digs, 7 kills) led the way.

Two days later they started East Bay Athletic League play with a 25-13, 25-19, 25-14 win over Dougherty Valley. Highlights came from Stedman (15 assists, 2 blocks), Hoenninger (3 kills, 2 blocks) and Sophia Burdick (3 kills, 1 block).

Amador girls' water polo

The Dons opened the EBAL season with a 12-3 win over Livermore, paced by seven goals from Susan Swyers.

Regan Braga added three goals, with Abigail Jones and Katie Hopkins scoring one each to round out the scoring for Amador Valley.

Braga had three assists, with Swyers adding two. Amador goalie Deepika

Suresh had fives in getting the win in the goal.

Amador boys' water polo

The Dons got a 21-5 win over Livermore to open EBAL play, paced by seven goals from Bryce O'Nesky in limited time.

Landon Kelley added five goals, and Anthony Sowul three to round out the multi-goal scorers. Jac Jorgenson, TJ Chandler, Jake DeMichiel, Eli Morris, and Will Campbell all added solo goals for Amador.

Jason Grell had seven saves and Colin Jennings had five saves for the Dons.

Playbook is now running!

Tri-Valley Preps Playbook —the popular look at all EBAL action — published its second issue for the 2024-25 prep season earlier this week.



PEI-CHI CHEN

Lulu Hoenninger (15) makes a block for Foothill, while Kaycie Burdick (7) and Paige Nelson (14) stand by in the Falcons' EBAL win over Dougherty Valley.

The Playbook is free but must be subscribed to for a delivery to your inbox each Tuesday afternoon!

The Big Picture this week takes an inside look at the emotional home opener for the Livermore varsity football team, where the Cowboys paid tribute to assistant coach Scott Baswell who passed away in his sleep July 31. (A story also featured below in this week's paper.)

The Power Rankings are back with week two for football and the debut of the girls' volleyball rankings.

The What to Watch segment brings some of the best games to watch this coming week as the EBAL girls'

volleyball action kicks into high gear. There are also some big non-league football games. Find out who, where, and when are the games.

This week we visited with Foothill flag football athlete Brea Olsen for Fast Five. Her "must follow" on social media is certainly one of the most popular professional athletes in the Bay Area!

The Playbook is, hands down, the best way to stay current with the EBAL athletic season, and once again, it is free. All you need to do is subscribe at pleasantonweekly.com and you are set to have a front row seat for EBAL action. ■

Livermore High football team pays tribute to Coach Bas

'He may be gone, but he is still here with us,' LB says remembering late defensive coordinator

BY DENNIS MILLER

It was July 30, a day like any other for the Livermore High varsity football team.

With head coach John Wade out of town, defensive coordinator and linebacker coach Scott Baswell ran the conditioning practice for the Cowboys.

The practice ended with some relay races and good spirits from the players and the extremely popular coach. The season wasn't far away from officially beginning and the team had high hopes.

By the next morning, the world was turned upside down for the players as Coach Baswell passed away in sleep early on July 31.

The players didn't know until they showed up for practice the next morning.

"Coach Bas was always there early," senior linebacker Diego Ramirez said. "I showed up early at 8 a.m. and he wasn't there, which was odd. Coach Petersdorf (Livermore athletic director) showed up and I saw a grim look on his face. He got us all in the locker room and I started putting two and two together. At that point, it was just words. I dropped to my knees —everyone was in tears."

Ramirez and Livermore running back Kamarri Robinson were two of the closest players to Bas. Robinson was going to be late to practice as he had a DMV appointment, something he had texted with Bas the night before.

"I got the call at the DMV," Robinson recalled. "I couldn't take the test, and I had to leave —my heart sank."

It was amazing and encouraging to me to see the grace and composure the two players carried themselves with while we talked about Bas and how they are approaching the season.

One thing that has always struck me about Livermore High athletics, in pretty much every sport, is the sense of family and community the athletes and coaches carry amongst themselves.

There was no shortage of that here. "I made it known how much (Bas) meant to me," Ramirez said of what he told his teammates after hearing the news in the locker room. "We were all in a lot of pain, but I knew he wouldn't have wanted to see the team that way. He always said, 'quit bitching and get something done.' I told everyone he would want us to get to work."

With the healing process underway, Petersdorf and the Livermore staff planned for the Sept. 6 home opener against Castro Valley as the night the school would honor the coach.

Baswell, a big man with a big beard who always wore sunglasses, had a character image on T-shirts that were available for purchase, as well as sunglasses with "BAS" on the frames. All proceeds are going to the family.

Bas, a retired Newark police officer, was Livermore High in so many ways, inspiring and mentoring the players. He instilled confidence and a love for the sport of football in the players.

His parents joined the team for the coin toss last Friday, then came the emotions of playing the game.

"We needed to win this game," Robinson said of the Castro Valley game. "We were playing the game for Bas. There was a lot of emotion."

"The emotions were high," Ramirez said. "It was a much-anticipated, much-needed game. His passing rocked us to the core. He always told us to 'set the tone.'"

For Ramirez, the passing of Bas cut deep. After playing junior football, Ramirez got to high school with a waning interest in the sport.

That was until he met Bas.

"I had lost my love for the sport, and he brought it back," Ramirez said. "As a freshman, I saw this big old dude, with a big old beard. He looked scary but I wasn't intimidated. There was just something about him —I wanted him to be my coach."

If nothing else, Bas certainly looked intimidating, with Robinson adding that he looked like a "Hells Angels biker". But both players dispelled anything in that direction.

"I thought he was scary when I was a freshman," Robinson said. "But he wasn't like that at all. You just had to see the work he put into practice and all he did for the players."

Ramirez took it a step further.

"He's not the way he came off," Ramirez said. "He was a big old teddy bear. I used to tell him that all the time —sometimes I thought he might punch me for saying that. He had a joke for everything, but he could get his point across when he needed to."

Now that the Cowboys have gotten through the emotions of the first home game, they can set about the rest of the season, even without their coach, friend, and mentor.

"It's all for him," Ramirez said. "His son told us, 'He wouldn't have left if



ADAM J. CLARK

A banner honoring Coach Bas at the Livermore-Castro Valley game.

he thought we couldn't win it all."

And that includes winning the East Bay Athletic League Valley Division, with the final game of the EBAL season coming against crosstown rival Granada.

"He hated Granada, and I am right there with him," Ramirez said. "He may be gone, but he is still here with us. He didn't need to coach —he did everything for us out of the kindness of his heart."

The Cowboys will be an easy team to root for this season. After talking with the two players, one thing that came to me is that Bas will be looking down from above with nothing but love for his players.

RIP Bas and I hope his family can carry with them the impact he made for so many. Truly a great man and someone who will be missed by many. ■

Entertainment

BUCK FORD AT THE FIREHOUSE Nashville recording artist Buck Ford, a real western wrangler, manages to bring forth music that ropes in both devout country traditionalists and contemporary fans alike. 7 p.m., Sept. 13. Tickets \$30. Visit [firehousearts.org](#).

THE JAYHAWKS AT THE BANKHEAD The Jayhawks bring their rootsy sound and four-decade musical journey to life featuring tracks from their latest studio album. 8 p.m., Sept. 14. Tickets \$25-\$85. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

SF COMEDY COMPETITION Fox Family Productions is bringing the finals of its San Francisco Standup Comedy Competition to Livermore. 7:30 p.m., Sept. 19. Tickets \$25-\$55. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

FOREVER MOTOWN Experience the ultimate Motown reunion and celebrate the timeless classics of

Berry Gordy’s legendary hit factory. 8 p.m., Sept. 20. Tickets \$55. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

KARLA BONOFF & JD SOUTHER IN CONCERT Join for a once-in-a-lifetime experience as these two luminaries come together to create an atmosphere of pure enchantment and musical bliss. 8 p.m., Sept. 27. Tickets \$25-\$75. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

PIRATES OF EMERSON Pirates of Emerson is an extremely frightening, walk-thru Haunted House celebrating 34 years of fear. Enjoy 4 haunted houses, virtual reality ride, games, bands and a gift shop. Sept. 27-Nov. 2. Alameda County Fairgrounds. Visit [piratesofemerson.com](#).

CARNAVAL SANTANA TRIBUTE Carnaval faithfully recreates the drive and the sound that has made Santana’s music a mainstay in rock music history for the past five

decades. 8 p.m., Sept. 28. Tickets \$25-\$35. Visit [firehousearts.org](#).

JAZZ AT INKLINGS The next free Jazz at Inklings features vocalist Nicolas Bearde and Matt Finders Trio. 6:00 p.m., Sept. 28. Seating is limited. 533 Main St., Pleasanton. For reservations visit [meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society](#).

LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA Livermore Valley Opera presents “Daughter of the Regiment”, the charming tale of Marie found on a battlefield and raised by a French Regiment. 7:30 p.m., Sept. 28; 2 p.m., Sept. 29, Oct. 5-6. Tickets \$25-\$110. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY BAND The Pleasanton Community Band will perform at the Farmers’ Market 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 28.

THE SHE GEES This electrifying female-fronted tribute to the Bee Gees will have you dancing and singing along to all of the favorite hits as they capture the essence of the Bee Gees sound and energy. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 2. Tickets \$55-\$75. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

JOAN OSBORNE AT THE BANKHEAD Joan Osborne is known for her gritty, blues-based rock sound, passionate performance and emotionally evocative songwriting. 8 p.m., Oct. 4. Tickets \$25-\$220. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO STANDUP COMEDY From the producers of one of the longest running independent shows in America, Best of San Francisco Standup Comedy, comes this comedy tour de force from some of the hottest up and coming acts in the Bay Area. 8 p.m., Oct. 5. Tickets \$25. Visit [firehousearts.org](#).

THE BIG BOUNCE AMERICA Enjoy an action-packed day featuring some of the most unique and exciting custom-built inflatable attractions ever made. This event is fun for all ages, including adult-only bounce sessions. Oct. 19-20; 25-27. Tickets \$35-\$45. Parking \$15. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](#).

Talks

MEDIA LITERACY LECTURE SERIES WITH CIERRA BAILEY Join for a Media Literacy Lecture Series, presented by Cierra Bailey of Embarcadero Media, and learn the impacts of media on public opinion and how to responsibly use media in an increasingly complex landscape. 2 p.m., Sept. 14. Livermore Civic Center Library, Storytime Room.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS This zoom meeting features speaker Paula Nadelstern whose quilts have achieved international recognition for the innovative and complex designs inspired by the bilateral symmetry of kaleidoscopic images. 1:30-3:30, Sept. 14. Visit [amadorvalleyquilters.org/Wordpress](#).

AUTHOR EVENT AT TOWNE CENTER BOOKS Join this free event where Karen Klein, two-time Pulitzer

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Simon says ...

Meet Simon! This lovable, big-hearted puppy is always ready to greet you with a wagging tail and a laid-back attitude. He adores meeting new people and is eager for pets, he enjoys all the attention his handsome brindle coat seems to attract. Simon is smart and attentive, making him the perfect companion for long walks or cozy cuddle sessions. While he loves exploring the outdoors and sniffing all the new scents, he’s just as content lounging in the shade and taking it easy. Come visit Simon at the East Bay SPCA Dublin Adoption Center or go to [eastbayspca.org](#).

Prize winning journalist with the LA Times, presents her new book “Rethinking College: Thriving Without a Degree”. Q&A followed by audience questions. 2 p.m., Sept. 15. 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

AN AFTERNOON OR EVENING WITH EDITH GALT WILSON Edith Galt Wilson was the second wife of Woodrow Wilson, and some considered her as the first woman President as in his second term Wilson suffered a stroke which paralyzed his left side. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sept. 17. Firehouse Arts Center. Visit [museumonmain.org](#).

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP PANEL Hear from influential women leaders from the California Credit Union League, Pacific Service Credit Union, Patelco Credit Union and Valley First Credit Union as they share their insights, experiences and perspectives as Women in Leadership. 5 p.m., Sept. 18. Tickets \$50. Visit [livermorearts.org](#).

FREE WALKING TOURS Join the Museum on Main staff and learn about Pleasanton’s long and varied history in this free walking tour named in remembrance of local architect Charles Huff. Learn about the architecture and backstories of some of the town’s most notable buildings. 9 a.m., Sept. 21. Rain or shine. 603 Main St.

MENTAL HEALTH LECTURE SERIES “Understanding and Managing Problematic Anxiety in Children and Adolescents” is the subject of this webinar by Wendy Silverman, Ph.D. She will provide an overview of the core clinical features of anxiety and its disorders in children and adolescents. 5-6 p.m., Sept. 24. Register by Sept. 23. Visit [alanhufoundation.org](#).

HAPPY HOUR WITH AUTHOR CAM INMAN Meet Cam Inman, author of “The Franchise: San Francisco 49ers”, and take a more profound and unique journey into the history of an iconic team. 5-6 p.m., Sept. 28. Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

GHOST WALK TICKETS ON SALE This family-friendly tour is led by a team of ghost hosts to visit nine haunted locations around downtown. Tours

begin at Museum on Main and leave every thirty minutes from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Oct. 11, 12, 18, 19. For more information visit [museumonmain.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](#).

Shows & Exhibits

TEXTURES OF REMEMBRANCE This exhibit explores a date that impacts many Vietnamese Americans: April 30, 1975, the end of the Vietnam War featuring works by 25 Vietnamese artists and writers. Through Sept. 28. Visit [museumonmain.org](#).

ALAMEDA FALL HOME SHOW The 38th annual Fall Home Show is back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Meet experts and visit exhibits and displays to help turn your house into the home of your dreams. 12-5 p.m., Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Oct. 5-6. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](#).

LOCOMOTIVE EXHIBIT This exhibit features artists and photographers with artwork that highlights Livermore and the Amador Valley’s rich railway history and culture. 1-5 p.m., Thurs-Sun. Through Oct. 6. UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery, Bankhead Theater Lobby.

Fundraisers

PLEASANTON LIBRARY BOOK AND MEDIA SALE The Fall Book and Media Sale, sponsored by Friends of the Pleasanton Library, is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 13-14; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept. 15. Proceeds from the book sales and membership fees go directly toward the library.

BEER, BRATS & BINGO Join this Pleasanton Military event at the Veterans Memorial Building. Doors open 5 p.m., Sept. 21. Bingo Cards \$15. 301 Main St.

Employment

Data Integration Specialist (Information Technology Specialist II), Pleasanton, CA. Responsible for working on complex enterprise data integration solutions to primarily support the analytical processing of large data sets by aligning, combining, and presenting data sets from organizational departments and external sources. Will implement data integration strategies through specialized software and techniques in data warehouse/data marts that host large data repositories from internal and external resources. Teleworking is permitted. Must possess a bachelor’s or foreign equivalent degree in computer science, information technology or electrical engineering and 5 years of progressively responsible work experience in ETL interfaces, using SQL, stored procedures (DB2, SQL Server, and Oracle Database Platforms), security of DataStage ETL Platform, Unix and Linux servers, job scheduling, script languages C, Shell (sh), AWK and sed. Monthly salary \$10,893. Send resume to Natalia Torres, State Compensation Insurance Fund, 2275 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833.

Senior Policy Admin & Billing Developer (Information Technology Specialist II), Pleasanton, CA. Design, develop, and maintain applications and systems architecture across multiple platforms to best align technology solutions with business strategies. Teleworking is permitted. Must possess a bachelor’s or foreign equivalent degree in computer science, information technology or electrical engineering and 5 years of progressively responsible software development work experience in Oracle, SQL Server, DB2 or MS Access, including C#, JavaScript, Java, IDE, with 3 years of IT project management. Monthly salary \$10,893. Send resume to Natalia Torres. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 2275 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833.

Senior Software Development Engineer (Information Technology Specialist II), Pleasanton, CA. Responsible for leading the more complex projects and teams in analysis, design, development, testing, implementation and maintenance of programming solutions and enhancements of complex State Fund enterprise-wide applications/systems to meet business needs. Teleworking is permitted. Must possess a bachelor’s or foreign equivalent in computer software engineering and 5 years of progressively responsible work experience in Information Technology using SQL, PLSQL, ETL, Java, Spring MVC, Apache, JBOSS, Ajax, JQuery. Monthly salary \$10,893. Send resume to Natalia Torres. State Compensation Insurance Fund, 2275 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833.

Senior Software Engineer - Bioinformatics for Roche Sequencing Solutions, Inc., Pleasanton, CA. Telecommuting permitted up to 2 days/wk. Req: Bachelor’s in Comp Sci, Bioinformatics, or rlttd + 6 yrs exp (or Master’s + 4 yrs exp). Expected salary range for position based on primary location in CA is \$166,464 - \$216,300/yr. Actual pay w/in range determined based on exp, qualifications, geographic loc & other job-rlttd factors permitted by law. Discretionary annual bonus may be available based on individual & Co. performance. Position qualifies for benefits detailed at Benefits (<https://roche.ehr.com/default.ashx?CLASSNAME=splash>). Apply: <http://applyroche.com/202408-120830> (Job ID: 202408-120830)

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

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 606981
The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/ have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S):
ROW HOUSE
ROW HOUSE PLEASANTON
3903A SANTA RITA
PLEASANTON,CA 94588
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 06/05/2024
UNDER FILE NO. 606981
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
AP VENTURES LLC
3512 York Lane
San Ramon, CA 94582
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on August 07 2024.
(PLW Aug 23, 30, Sep 6 and 13, 2024)

FOREVER FARMS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608926
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Forever Farms, located at 13575 Lake Chabot Rd. San Leandro, CA 94577, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 205 Downey St., San Francisco, CA 94117
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DILLON GRUBER
205 Downey St
San Francisco, CA 94117
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 August 27 2024.
(PLW Sep 13, 20, 27 and Oct 4, 2024)

HLW VINEYARDS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608711
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) HLW VINEYARDS, located at 44400 Parkmeadow Dr, Fremont, CA 94539, Alameda County. Mailing Address: PO BOX 15193, Fremont, CA 94539.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HLW LLC
PO BOX 15193
Fremont, CA 94539
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/6/2005
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 19 2024.
(PLW Aug 30, Sep 6, 13 and 20, 2024)

DECKED OUT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608726
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DECKED OUT, located at 3263 Vineyard Ave. Spc 99, Pleasanton, CA 94566-6342, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
EMILY WARREN
3263 Vineyard Ave. Spc 99
Pleasanton, CA 94566-6342
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on August 15 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 19 2024.

(PLW Aug 30, Sep 6, 13 and 20, 2024)

HOME PROS CONSTRUCTION INC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609017
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) HOME PROS CONSTRUCTION INC, located at 2583 Orvieto Ct. Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HOME PROS KITCHEN BATH INC.
2583 Orvieto Ct.
Livermore, CA 94550
State of Incorporation/Organization: Delaware
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1978
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 30 2024.
(PLW Sep 13, 20, 27 and Oct 4, 2024)

DAANISH TECHNOLOGIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 606321
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DAANISH TECHNOLOGIES, located at 6200 STONERIDGE MALL RD STE 300, 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):
DAANISH LLC
6200 STONERIDGE MALL RD STE 300
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/18/2021
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on May 13 2024.
(PLW Sep 13, 20, 27 and Oct 4, 2024)

JELLYFLAVOR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608904
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Jellyflavor, located at 4571 Maureen Circle, Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TANVI MURUGESH
4571 Maureen Circle
Livermore, CA 94550
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 August 26 2024.
(PLW Sep 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2024)

NANABLUEBERRY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608809
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) NANABLUEBERRY, located at 34340 Platinum Terrace, Fremont, CA 94555, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LI JIN
34340 Platinum Terrace
Fremont, CA 94555
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 August 21 2024.
(PLW Sep 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2024)

OXFORD ROYALE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608359
The following person (persons) is (are) doing

business as:
1.) OXFORD ROYALE, located at 2601 Warring Street, Berkeley, CA 94720, Alameda County.
Mailing Address: c/o Reynolds & Rowella, LLP, 90 Grove Street, Suite 101, Ridgefield, CT 06877
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
OR EDUCATION, INC.
c/o Reynolds & Rowella, LLP, 90 Grove Street, Suite 101
Ridgefield, CT 06877
State of Incorporation/Organization: Delaware
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 August 01 2024.
(PLW Aug 23, 30, Sep 6 and 13, 2024)

SUPER STAR FOODS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608440
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SUPER STAR FOODS, located at 5972 Topsfield Circle Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PRAFULLA MUKHI PRABHU VENKATESH
5972 Topsfield Circle
Dublin, CA 94568
PRABHU VENKATESH SUBRAMANIAN
5972 Topsfield Circle
Dublin, CA 94568
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 August 06 2024.
(PLW Aug 23, 30, Sep 6 and 13, 2024)

HLW WINES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608709
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) HLW WINES, located at 44400 Parkmeadow Dr., Fremont, CA 94539, Alameda County.
Mailing Address: PO BOX 15193, Fremont, CA 94539.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HLW WINERY, LLC
PO BOX 15193
Fremont, CA 94539
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/27/2015
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on August 19 2024.
(PLW Aug 30, Sep 6, 13 and 20, 2024)

J ARROYO'S CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 607957
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) J Arroyo's Construction, located at 1855 Locust Street Livermore, CA 94551, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JOSE LUIS ARROYO BECERRA
1855 Locust Street
Livermore, CA 94551
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/15/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on July 17 2024.
(PLW Aug 23, 30, Sep 6 and 13, 2024)

VELVET HEAD SPA LIVERMORE
VELVET LIVERMORE
VELVET HEAD SPA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608932
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

1.) VELVET HEAD SPA LIVERMORE, 2.) VELVET LIVERMORE, 3.) VELVET HEAD SPA, located at 2133 LAS POSITAS CT., STE. A, LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County. Mailing Address: 741 TARROGANA DRIVE TRACY, CA 95376
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TGS MASSAGE INC.
741 TARROGANA DRIVE
TRACY, CA 95376
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 August 27 2024.
(PLW Sep 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV087499
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Kristina Joy Constantino Budnik filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
KRISTINA JOY CONSTANTINO BUDNIK to KRISTINA JOY TORREALBA
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: DECEMBER 20, 2024, 9:30 am, WILEY W MANUEL COURTHOUSE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 661 WASHINGTON STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94607.
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: AUGUST 16, 2024
THOMAS I NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Aug 30, Sep 6, 13 and 20, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV089422
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Sean Kendall Robbins filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
SEAN KENDALL ROBBINS to SEAN CALVIN KENDALL
ALEXANDRA LAUREN BRESLIN to ALEXANDRA LAUREN KENDALL
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 12/27/2024, 9:30 AM, Civil Branch of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St., Oakland CA 94607.
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: Aug 30, 2024
Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Sep 13, 20, 27 and Oct 4, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV087659
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Kalena Ramos filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
KALENA RAMOS to KALENA NICOLE LUTHER
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: 11-08-2024, 9:30AM, Alameda of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St, Oakland, CA 94607.
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: Aug 19 2024
Thomas J Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Aug 30, Sep 6, 13 and 20, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV084894
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Kaitlin Alexia Culata-Lontok filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
KAITLIN ALEXIA CULATA-LONTOK to KAITLIN AVYANNA MARTINEZ
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: 11/22/2024, 9:30am, 1B of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 1225 Fallon St., Oakland, Ca 94612.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 07/26/2024
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Aug 23, 30, Sep 6 and 13, 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
- Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
- Notice of Bulk Sale
- Legal Summons
- Trustee Sale

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

Tri-Valley homeowners eligible for ADU rebates via state pilot

Glazer program being tested in 15 East Bay cities in hopes of accelerating production of up to 350 units

By JEREMY WALSH

State Sen. Steve Glazer is hoping his East Bay district can become the prototype for accessory dwelling unit (ADU) production in California — and he’s staking its reputation on that potential, with some state funding in the pot.

Through the efforts of the termed-out Democrat, 15 cities and towns including all in the Tri-Valley can share in up to \$2.5 million through September 2026 to rapidly spur ADU development in their jurisdiction, including some state money that will take the form of rebates to property owners for qualifying ADU projects.

“It is no secret the State of California is facing a shortage of available and affordable housing, and no one knows this better than our local cities and towns,” Glazer said in

a statement last week. “From my first days in the State Senate, I have been a staunch supporter of cities seeking new and unique ways to spur the production of housing while blending new developments within the fabric of their communities.”

“I’m hoping that cities in my district can show what can be achieved when cities work together with the state on an incentivized program aimed at producing more affordable housing,” Glazer added.

The new “ADU Accelerator Program” is a pilot initiative administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development with funding secured in the 2023 budget through Glazer’s legislative advocacy efforts, according to his office.

Only specific cities and towns in Alameda and Contra Costa counties

are eligible, provided they have a certified Housing Element. In addition to Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville, the full list includes Antioch, Brentwood, Clayton, Concord, Lafayette, Moraga, Oakley, Orinda, Pittsburg and Walnut Creek.

The program will offer up to \$1,725,000 overall for rebates to property owners who obtain construction permits and actually complete their ADU with an occupancy certificate within 18 months. Rebates will be offered between \$5,000 and \$15,000 for low-income restricted ADUs at up to 1,000 square feet, and between \$2,500 to \$7,500 for non-restricted ADUs.

The total available funding per municipality is based on a per capita calculation of \$1.87 — so Dublin, with its population of 72,917 would



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

be eligible for up to \$136,352 for resident rebates.

Another \$750,000 in state funding (up to \$50,000 per jurisdiction) will be available to the city and town governments to support them creating new “prototypical permit-ready ADU plans ... design elevations and construction drawings. Permit-ready plans are intended to streamline the ADU development process and facilitate additional ADU development in the community. Cities may partner with other cities on applications in this category to leverage investment,”

according to the state fact sheet.

The goal is to facilitate the addition of up to 350 ADUs among the cities and have the pilot program become a model for what could be accomplished at the local level with state incentive funding in terms of bringing actual housing units online efficiently, according to Glazer’s office.

To participate, qualified cities or towns must turn in a completed electronic application to the town of Danville, which is the designated fiscal agent for the pilot program. ■

HOME SALES

This week’s data represents homes sold during June 24-28 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Aug. 12-16 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 5762 Belleza Drive** S. Natarajan to M. & S. Pandya for \$855,000
- 4944 Blackbird Way** Property Buddies LLC to C. & A. Ring for \$2,250,000
- 3471 Byron Court** Tollworthy Family Trust to Twfp LLC for \$1,525,000
- 974 Clinton Place** Whippet Trust to J. & M. Blockmon for \$980,000
- 3137 Delicado Court** Meirelles Living Trust to A. & P. Seth for \$1,205,000
- 7836 Foothill Knolls Drive** D. & K. Kaleiki to S. & D. Twaddell for \$2,550,000
- 1564 Greenwood Road** M. & C. Simms to Lll Trust for \$1,650,000
- 4646 Klamath Court** Y. Kim to W. & K. Xiang for \$1,500,000
- 715 Kolln Street** Ahrens Trust to A. & J. Grendahl for \$1,385,000
- 886 Montevino Drive** Andrews Living Trust to S. & M. Chandramallegowda for \$2,575,000
- 7580 Olive Drive** Satalo Living Trust to J. & P. Jaswal for \$1,711,000
- 4110 Rennellwood Way** Afonso Trust to H. & G. Deol for \$1,420,000
- 6240 Roslin Court** Porter Family Trust to M. & S. Periyasamy for \$1,505,000
- 2506 Sanderling Drive** Melin Living Trust to S. & V. Gorantla for \$2,000,000
- 405 Vineyard Place #D** Elliott Living Trust to C. Blecha for \$685,000

Livermore

- 2826 Barouni Court** Sparks Living Trust to Stellar Ventures LLC for \$2,200,000
- 1921 Depot Drive #105** J. Monette to S. & R. Krishnan for \$890,000
- 510 Escondido Circle** Mccool Living Trust to Latimer-Bruno Family Trust for \$1,801,000
- 5419 Evelyn Way** S. Granado to I. Hinton for \$1,275,000
- 1254 Hillview Drive** S. & B. Harrison to K. & P. Karri for \$1,051,500

- 1752 Holly Common** A. & M. Mcwilliams to Bommireddi Family Trust for \$1,080,000
- 1236 Madison Avenue** C. Horwood to K. Chevalier for \$1,350,000
- 1069 Marigold Road** S. Huntsman to M. & M. Gomez for \$875,000
- 1833 Meadow Glen Drive** Hadel Living Trust to A. & J. Singh for \$1,480,000
- 798 Meadowlark Street** Daoudi Investments LLC to L. & C. Russick for \$1,081,500
- 790 North N Street** Patterson Trust to S. & K. Wonacott for \$850,000
- 4763 Nicol Common #106** M. Columbus to D. Lassig for \$535,000
- 3557 Oregon Way** S. & J. Brown to D. & A. Van Der Kamp for \$925,000
- 4857 Primrose Lane** G. Nyayapathi to A. & R. Singh for \$1,035,000
- 509 Rincon Avenue** Jorgensen Trust to M. & D. Garcia for \$700,000
- 737 Sandpiper Common** C. Stettler to R. & H. Panchal for \$735,000
- 1959 Santa Croce Court** Nolan Trust to J. Elfyn for \$1,940,000
- 4734 Scenic Avenue** Gunner Ventures LLC to S. & M. Majeed for \$1,140,000
- 2127 Shetland Road** T. Saifee to R. Gabriel for \$1,130,000
- 82 Snowball Court** D. & B. Kehoe to S. & S. Aremanda for \$1,725,000
- 1650 Sorrento Place** Rivera Family Trust to Sartori Family Trust for \$3,100,000
- 4111 Sugar Pine Way** R. & S. Bhosekar to C. & A. Mathur for \$1,100,000
- 6508 Tiffany Common** L. & Q. That to V. & V. Challa for \$1,325,000
- 1801 Vetta Drive** K. Ling to Sharma Family Trust for \$2,045,000

Dublin

- 7026 Ann Arbor Way** Bannister Trust to M. & K. Pannagendran for \$1,375,000
- 5629 Apex Drive** S. Bajad to A. Bone for \$950,000
- 11239 Bay Laurel Street** Chen Trust to Sandhu Family Trust for \$1,900,000
- 6942 Brighton Drive** C. Henninger to S. Guo for \$1,230,000

- 7652 Buckeye Court** Christensen Living Trust to H. Marella for \$2,000,000
- 7669 Donohue Drive** Yu Family Trust to I. & S. Semwal for \$1,250,000
- 5461 Dublin Boulevard** L. & A. Jackson to E. & M. Anabeza for \$1,090,000
- 3663 Dublin Boulevard** Zhou & Xie Living Trust to W. & W. Chang for \$860,000
- 7149 Dublin Meadows Street #F** G. Okeeffe to S. & H. Son for \$745,000
- 7625 Ironwood Drive** T. Wright to V. & M. Shivaiah for \$1,260,000
- 6590 Pioneer Lane #27** A. & K. Grundy to H. Yip for \$535,000
- 4832 Piper Glen Terrace** Sdcooks Living Trust to P. & S. Shambharkar for \$2,125,000
- 4787 North Spago Drive** S. John to D. & K. Veerannagari for \$2,210,000
- 2579 Whitehorse Way** T. Brosnan to S. & A. Shroff for \$2,200,000
- 3746 Whitworth Drive** C. & E. Tagalicud to V. & M. Ronzhin for \$950,000
- 9691 Zac Court** F. Johnston to P. & L. Singal for \$2,675,000

San Ramon

- 7535 Balmoral Way** Wang Trust to S. & B. Parlapalli for \$2,930,000
- 450 Bollinger Canyon Lane #292** M. & F. Mensah to T. Dubal-Mahe for \$482,000
- 9441 Broadmoor Drive** Wood 2003 Trust to A. & A. Yadav for \$1,430,000

Source: California REsource

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (June 24-28)

Total sales reported: 15
Lowest sale reported: \$685,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,575,000
Average sales reported: \$1,586,400

Livermore (June 24-28)

Total sales reported: 24
Lowest sale reported: \$535,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,100,000
Average sales reported: \$1,307,041

Dublin (June 24-28)

Total sales reported: 16
Lowest sale reported: \$535,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,675,000
Average sales reported: \$1,459,687

San Ramon (Aug. 12-16)

Total sales reported: 19
Lowest sale reported: \$447,500
Highest sale reported: \$2,930,000
Average sales reported: \$1,430,000

Source: California REsource

VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE EXCELLENCE

HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!



Alexis Venema

FOR SALE

843 Wall Street, Livermore

3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,484 Sq. Ft. | \$1,149,000



Liz Venema & Brenda Meckenstock

COMING SOON

1772 Zenato Place, Ruby Hill

5 Bedrooms | 4 Bathrooms | 3,843 Sq. Ft. | \$3,695,000



Liz & Alexis Venema

FOR SALE

3424 Touriga Drive, Pleasanton

4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,050 Sq. Ft. | \$2,098,000



Liz Venema & Michelle Kroger

FOR SALE

370 Oak Lane, Pleasanton

5 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms | 3,525 Sq. Ft. | \$2,549,000



Alexis Venema & Liz Venema

45 Golf Road, Castlewood



Alexis Venema & Liz Venema

2784 Decker Lane, Livermore

DATE THE RATE, MARRY THE HOUSE...

Don't let interest rates hold you back. We have preferred lenders that have agreed to give you a one time FREE refinance once rates go down. Buy your home now, refinance later!

SOLD with 4 offers in 5 days



4147 Jensen St, Pleasanton

Representing the Seller and the Buyer – my seller is happy for their home to have the new buyers. My buyers are thrilled for their first home to start their home memories.

A 3 BD, 2 BA home with 1,470 SqFt of living space

SOLD at \$1,325,000



KRIS MOXLEY
REAL ESTATE



SOLD



455 Covellite Lane, Livermore

A note from my sellers:

"It has been a pleasure working with Kris to sell our home. We had a tight time frame to sell, and Kris made the entire experience very smooth. She helped us prepare for the sale, coordinating activities even when she was on a family vacation. Being first time home sellers, she was able to walk us through the process and helped us understand the terms of our offers and get the best price for our home. I highly recommend Kris to anyone in the Livermore area as her knowledge, connections, and experience are unmatched."

SOLD at \$1,325,000 - receiving 3 offers

SOLD



138 Avocado Ct, San Ramon

Located within a court is this 4 BD, 2 BA with 2,003 SqFt. Enhanced with the home's family room addition offering vaulted open wood beam ceilings.

SOLD at \$1,620,000

SOLD



5943 Arthur Dr, Pleasanton

A one story charmer offered 3 BD, 2 BA with 1,907 SqFt. The home has been expanded & updated throughout. The private backyard is an oasis to enjoy. All resting on a 9,392 SqFt lot. Complimented with a 3-CAR GARAGE.

SOLD at \$1,820,000

SOLD



6259 Corte Fuego, Pleasanton

A 4 BD, 3 BA with 2,381 SqFt, featuring one BD and full BA on the main level. This home has been updated throughout along with a private setting in the homes backyard.

SOLD at \$2,260,000

COMING



SOON

Pleasanton 3 BD | 2 BA | highly updated both inside and out.

In the downtown area of the Jensen neighborhood.

Livermore 3 BD | 2.5 BA | 2 story backing to private open space.

Kris Moxley

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COMPASS