

Pleasanton Weekly

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fan-favorite food

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Fall horse races come to fairgrounds



Welcoming inaugural Golden State meet,
Pleasanton is epicenter of 'the best time
for racing in Northern California'

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Finding fall fun

Suddenly October is more than halfway over. How did that happen? Haha...

We've got our Halloween costumes lined up — even though just this week our little guy tried to change ideas for a second time — and our decorations are starting to be put up. We have a couple of parties on the horizon, but we're also trying to find time to work in a pumpkin patch visit. The calendar, which my wife so meticulously manages, has filled up quickly.

There's so many options to choose from in our area, not only for the gourd grounds but any number of autumn activities.

Looking at the list for the Tri-Valley yields much the same. At least a dozen marquee events through the end of the month alone, as far as I can tell. Our family will do our best to make it down Interstate 680 for something next week or so, but you'll have to forgive me if I want to avoid navigating the partial freeway closure this weekend in San Ramon and Dublin.

Here are some of the offerings on the Tri-Valley calendar that jump out to me ...

When it comes to pumpkin patches, families are presented with the usual suspects: G&M Farms and Joan's Farm and Pumpkin Patch in Livermore and Moore Pumpkin in San Ramon (next to Forest Home Farms). But Moore's familiar location in Livermore is not open this season.

The city of Dublin is hosting a fun, buoyant alternative at The Wave: the Floating Pumpkin Patch next Saturday (Oct. 26). Among its many fall activities, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's ranger program is leading "Pumpkin Carving Campfire" that same afternoon and evening at Sycamore Grove Park.

LARPD also has its Haunted Tours of Ravenswood Historic Site this Friday and Saturday nights. Its Halloween Boo Bash follows from 3-6 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Robert Livermore Community Center.

Speaking of local parks, enjoy the spirit of Sunol Wilderness this Saturday (Oct. 19) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., presented by the East Bay Regional Park District. "The Sunol Heritage Festival celebrates fall with live music by the Polka Cowboys, crafts, Ohlone stories, and old-timey ranch activities and games like learning to lasso," EBRPD reps said.

Of course, the autumn beauty of

the southeast will be on full display this whole weekend during the "TASTE: The Livermore Valley Wine Experience".

The popular Pleasanton Harvest Festival returns to the Alameda County Fairgrounds next Friday through Sunday (Oct. 25-27) with its "thousands of American hand-made arts and crafts such as fine and fashion jewelry, ceramics, original art, specialty food, decor, clothing and much more," plus live music from the Evan Thomas Band, organizers said.

Get into the frightening and spooky sides of the fall in another part of the fairgrounds with the Pirates of Emerson immersive Halloween experience, open through Nov. 2. For softer Halloween happenings, there are the family-friendly Kidz Town Halloween Hay Day in downtown Livermore from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. next Saturday (Oct. 26), the adults-only Halloween Brew Crawl in downtown Pleasanton from 5-8 p.m. that same day and the pet-filled Howl-O-Ween Costumed Pet Parade at City Center Bishop Ranch from 2-3 p.m. next Sunday (Oct. 27).

The fairgrounds really is a place to be in this month, when factoring in the start of the new, extended fall horse racing season and The Big Bounce America attraction all weekend long, plus Diwali - Festival of Lights from 12-11 p.m. Saturday (Oct. 19).

The latter is the first of several major Diwali celebrations for the whole community in the Tri-Valley, including the city of Pleasanton from 1-3 p.m. next Sunday (Oct. 27) at the Veterans Memorial Building and Livermore Valley Arts from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 3 outside the Bankhead Theater.

That's just one of many events on the docket at the Bankhead in the coming weeks. Add Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center, Danville's Village Theatre, and San Ramon's Dougherty Valley and Front Row theaters to that crowded A&E list for October and early November.

I'll admit I may be only scratching the surface here. Any omission was inadvertent; forgive me. But do take a few minutes to peruse our "Community Calendar" in this week's paper or online. Our admin associate Carolyn Chan does a stellar job putting it together. Don't hesitate to email event listings with us or add them online yourself — because after all, those winter holiday activities are just around the corner. ■

About the Cover

The historic horse track at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton is hosting the inaugural Golden State Racing fall meet, on Fridays through Sundays now until Dec. 15. Photo by Chuck Deckert.

Cover design by Kristin Brown.

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Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

If you find yourself in an emergency situation and your 'primary emergency contact' is unavailable, who are you going to call for help?



Jennifer Katz Office services assistant

Well, I have a fairly large family, so if my boyfriend or parents can't be reached, I have my two sisters to reach out to. I also have a niece and nephews, cousins, a few neighbors and a small handful of friends who I feel I could trust to step up to my aid. I would do the same for any of them! Having a human connection to others makes a huge difference in our overall health and survival.



Jesse Stites, with Ranier Attendant

If my husband, who I would typically call, were unavailable, I'd call my mom. She lives in Washington state, which obviously is not ideal if I have an emergency, but I know I can rely on her to help me however she can, and to always be able to calm me down, no matter where in the world she is.



Lemuel Moi College student

I'd call my dad because he's the most resourceful person I know. And I know he would be up for helping me out, no matter what.



Karen Santos, with granddaughter Retired

I would call my "local daughter" (I have two daughters) or my son, who also lives in town. I know they would drop everything to help me. And if neither of them were available, I'd reach out to my other daughter, who lives in San Francisco.



Stephanie Moi Network credentials specialist

In an emergency, my first call would typically be to my brother, who has bailed me out of all sorts of situations more times than I can count. If he were unavailable, there really is no one else I would call. I would rely on my own knowledge and wits in order to figure out a solution for myself.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com



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DIGEST

Another 680 closure

Caltrans is shutting down a portion of southbound Interstate 680 between Alcosta Boulevard in San Ramon and the I-580/I-680 connector in Dublin and Pleasanton this weekend, the second partial closure in the area this month to accommodate longer work hours on the ongoing freeway project.

The three right lanes of southbound I-680 in the area will be blocked off from 9 p.m. Friday (Oct. 18) through 4 a.m. Monday (Oct. 21). Although the two left lanes will remain open, Caltrans urges motorists to consider alternative routes and plan for delays.

“During the closures, the contractor will replace a portion of the existing deteriorated roadway with new pavement on southbound I-680,” Caltrans said. “Each weekend closure will accomplish the amount of work that otherwise would require an estimated 40 nighttime closures.”

Have a TASTE

Livermore Valley Wine Community’s signature fall event, recently rebranded to “TASTE: The Livermore Valley Wine Experience” is underway now through Sunday (Oct. 20).

The annual Taste Our Terroir competition was set for Thursday at Bella Rosa Event Center, with results pending as of press time.

A series of other special activities is on the schedule for Friday through Sunday, including the Cheese and Wine Pairing at Del Valle Winery Barrel Room, Taste 92 at Cuda Ridge Wines, Puppies, Wine & Yoga, Oh My! at Fenestra Winery, Livermore Valley’s Signature Tasting at McGrail Vineyards & Winery and Bougie Brunch & Beats at 3 Steves Winery.

For tickets and more details, visit lvwine.org.

Mental health forum

The Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance next week is hosting a half-day forum in Pleasanton focused on critical mental health issues in the community.

“Mental Health Matters” will feature a panel discussion and keynote presentations on topics and services applicable to youth, seniors, military veterans, unhoused people, and residents impacted by substance use and the criminal justice system, organizers said.

TVNPA reps said, “With mental health challenges rising across all populations, this forum will be an essential platform for discussing solutions, sharing expertise and enhancing service delivery in the Tri-Valley region.”

The forum is set for 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Rosewood Commons Conference Center in Pleasanton. Go to tvnpa.org to learn more. ■

PUSD appoints acting principal at Amador Valley High School

Technology coordinator and ex-VP Jr Yee took over on Oct. 1 to provide stability amid Fey’s absence

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

A technology services coordinator at the Pleasanton Unified School District has temporarily taken over as acting principal of Amador Valley High School in the wake of Jonathan Fey’s unexplained leave of absence.

Seewing Yee Jr — who prefers to go by Jr Yee — started serving as acting principal on Oct. 1, with the Board of Trustees ratifying the temporary administrative appointment during last week’s board meeting. Yee worked as a teacher and vice principal at Amador earlier in his

career.

“Mr. Yee will provide stability in leadership for Amador Valley as he returns to where he started his career in this temporary role,” PUSD director of communications Patrick Gannon told the Weekly.

The need for the temporary leadership move came from Fey’s sudden and indefinite leave of absence announced on Aug. 14. Gannon said he didn’t have any new information on why Fey left in the first place, adding that it is a privacy matter that is kept confidential “out of respect for the individual”.

“It is what it is,” Gannon said. “Jon is on leave. We don’t have a return date.”

Several current and former district officials provided administrative support to Amador in the early part of the school year. Now, the district wanted to do its best to provide consistent leadership in Fey’s absence, which is why Yee was chosen, according to Gannon.

He said Yee started off his career at Amador where he spent three years as a social science teacher before becoming a vice principal in 2019. After a year of serving as

vice principal at Amador, where he oversaw things like virtual graduation, Yee moved to the district offices in 2020 where he spent the last four years serving as the coordinator of innovation and technology.

“Mr. Yee has been instrumental in



Jr Yee

See **PRINCIPAL** on Page 8

Stanford nurses ink new contract

Wages, safety central to 3-year deal for local hospital

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

An overwhelming majority of the nurses at the Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley in Pleasanton recently voted in favor of ratifying a new three-year contract with the hospital that their union said will improve patient safety and staff retention, among other things.

According to a press release over the weekend from California Nurses Association/ National Nurses United, the Tri-Valley nurses voted to ratify the new contract on Oct. 9. The union, one of the largest associations of registered nurses in the country, represents 550 nurses at Stanford Health Care Tri-Valley.

Denise Bouillerc, senior director of government and community relations for the hospital, told the Weekly, “We are extremely pleased that a majority of our nurses voted to ratify the Tentative Agreement that was signed and endorsed by their union.”

“The new contract provides competitive wage increases and other improvements that reflect the respect and appreciation we have for our nurses and all they do for Tri-Valley and our patients,” Bouillerc added. “Our thanks and congratulations to

See **NURSES** on Page 8



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Republican Jim Shoemaker (left) and Democrat Jerry McNerney (right) are competing in the runoff to represent Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and the rest of District 5 in the State Senate.

Shoemaker, McNerney face off for State Senate District 5

Take sides on climate response, gov’t regulations and more

By JUDE STRZEMP

State Senate District 5 candidates Democrat Jerry McNerney and Republican Jim Shoemaker aim to win voter approval this November from residents in four counties, including a significant part of the Tri-Valley.

This year marks the first time many Tri-Valley voters will weigh in on the District 5 election instead of the 7th District. The change accompanies a redistricting after the 2020 census that added parts of Alameda County like Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin to the former District 5 electorate of San Joaquin County and portions of Stanislaus and Sacramento counties.

Within these areas, voters can choose between candidates who offer different responses to climate change and the strength of

government regulations. The winner will be replacing Democrat Sen. Susan Talamantes Eggman, who is termed out.

Shoemaker, from San Joaquin County, finished first and Pleasanton’s McNerney was second in the three-candidate primary election that featured a second Democrat out of Stockton.

Whereas McNerney focuses on renewable energy projects like solar and wind in response to climate change, Shoemaker prioritized nuclear energy. And on government regulation, Shoemaker sides with reducing regulations whereas McNerney supports strengthening them for areas like groundwater pumping and water contamination.

However, the two share interests in addressing water infrastructure, homelessness and the paycheck

to paycheck experience lived by many Californians.

At the top of McNerney’s priorities are protecting water, expanding a green economy and responding to the affordable housing crisis, according to his campaign website.

Before running for State Senate, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives for California’s District 9 and 11 from 2007 to 2023. Here he supported an environmentally friendly economy through his work on the Inflation Reduction Act, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the CHIPS Act and more.

In Congress, he worked to support veterans, bringing the full-service Stockton VA Clinic and nursing home to the region and writing a law that improves

See **SENATE** on Page 11

More non-native mosquitoes found in Amador Valley area

Abatement district out in force with inspections for *Aedes aegypti*

BY BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE
The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District has found four additional *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in Pleasanton after announcing last week the discovery of the non-native insect that hadn't been seen in the county for a decade and is capable of spreading diseases.

The district placed traps in areas south of the Amador Valley neighborhood of Pleasanton and found mosquitoes inside and near the Alameda County Fairgrounds and neighborhoods northeast of the fairgrounds.

An *Aedes aegypti* mosquito was previously discovered Oct. 9 in an area west of Amador Valley High School and east of Hopyard Road, the first time since 2014 that the species was detected in Alameda County. The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito can spread diseases like dengue, Zika and yellow fever, according to the district.

Mosquito district staff are going to all properties in the area to inspect for mosquitoes, which lay their eggs near water, and estimated they have inspected about a quarter of the properties in the initial detection area. The aim is to stop the mosquitos from establishing permanently in the neighborhood.

"The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District appreciates the help of residents who allowed inspections on their property," district general manager Ryan Clausnitzer said in a statement Tuesday. "Staff have been in the area conducting inspections over the weekend, and will continue to inspect properties over the next few weeks."

Staff members doing the inspections will be in uniforms with a

logo on their shirts and will have additional identification if requested. The district said it is also working with fairgrounds staff to enhance monitoring and treatment for mosquitoes at that site.

Aedes aegypti is present in 19 counties throughout the state, including neighboring Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties.

"If *Aedes aegypti* gains a foothold in Alameda County, it will not only threaten public health but also affect our quality of life, as these mosquitoes are highly aggressive and active during the day, unlike native mosquito populations, which are most active in the morning and evening, when temperatures are cool," the district said on its website.

The invasive mosquitoes are aggressive and bite at any time of day, and are considered "container breeders" that lay eggs just above the water line in small water sources like buckets, pet dishes, fountains and bird baths, plant pots and saucers, and old tires. The eggs can last for more than a year without water.

To reduce the risk of mosquito bites, residents are encouraged to use an EPA-registered insect repellent containing active ingredients like DEET, picaridin, the repellent version of oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535.

Wearing long-sleeve shirts, pants, socks and shoes when mosquitoes are most active is also advised, and residents should ensure that window and door screens are in good condition.

More information on the district and its programs can be found on its website at <https://www.mosquitoes.org>. ■



ACMAD VIA BCN

The non-native *Aedes aegypti* mosquito species, recently spotted in Pleasanton, is capable of spreading diseases such as dengue, Zika and yellow fever.

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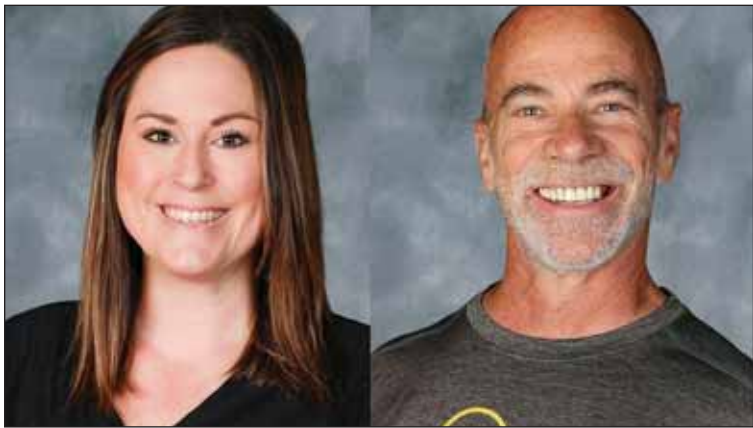
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COURTESY DUSD

Murray Elementary teacher Kaitlin Repine and Dublin Elementary child nutrition staffer Rocky Orman died less than two weeks apart.

Dublin Unified mourning recent deaths of teacher, staffer

Losses of Ms. Repine, Mr. Rocky days apart leave 'profound void', Superintendent Funk says

By JUDE STRZEMP

Loss. Tragedy. Heartbreak. Those words have marked Dublin Unified School District announcements twice this fall, following the deaths of Murray Elementary School's fifth-grade teacher Kaitlin Repine and Dublin Elementary School's child nutrition staff member Rocky Orman less than two weeks apart.

The news broke after principals from each elementary school sent messages to the community announcing the losses, letters steeped in mourning but also reverence for the role each played at their schools. They also encouraged open dialogue between parents and children as they work through this challenging time.

"Ms. Repine's passion for education and Mr. Rocky's dedication to nourishing our students were integral to our school community," DUSD Superintendent Chris Funk wrote to families on Monday. "Their absence leaves a profound void in their school communities and the district and serves as a poignant reminder of the immeasurable impact that every staff member has on our school community."

Repine taught for five years at Murray, where she was known for her kindness and dedication, according to the school's principal Bethanne Witczak.

There she led the fifth-grade Cougar Crew and explored Science Camp with her students. Repine was even recognized as DUSD Teacher of the Year by other staff members for the 2022-23 school year.

As recently as Sept. 6, her classroom — decorated with tea lights, educational posters and even a Jurassic World poster behind her desk — was featured on the school's Instagram as the first in a series of classroom tours.

"Something you should know about Ms. Repine is that she is expecting a baby girl in October," the

caption reads. "We are so excited to welcome a new Cougar to the family."

But last week, Repine died after complications at the end of her pregnancy, according to family and school officials.

"Our hearts are breaking for Ms. Repine's family, and our school community is grieving the loss of a teacher who was so much more than just an educator to us all," Witczak wrote in a message to the community on Oct. 9. "Ms. Repine was a beloved member of our school family, known for her kindness, dedication, connections with students, and passion for teaching."

Not only does she leave behind a classroom of students, she is also survived by her husband David (Donald) Repine.

In support of Repine's widower, Kristopher Couls organized a fundraiser on GoFundMe on his behalf that has raised more than \$56,000 toward its target \$60,000 as of Wednesday morning.

"There are no words to fully encompass the unimaginable heartbreak that has happened. Kait was the most remarkable wife, daughter, friend, sister, aunt, teacher and so much more. After 2 difficult rounds of IVF, her and Donald were ecstatic to be parents. Kait wanted nothing more than to be a mother, and she would have been simply the best," Couls wrote.

The family tragedy began unfolding on Oct. 4 when Repine, 38 weeks pregnant, felt unwell and was admitted to the hospital, according to Couls on GoFundMe. They learned their arriving daughter had no heartbeat, a diagnosis confirmed upon her birth on Oct. 6.

Repine underwent many emergency surgeries, but ultimately her organs failed amid a battle with pancreatitis, her family said on

See **DUSD DEATHS** on Page 10

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'Last call' for Shadow Puppet Brewing

Livermore company ends distribution this year, selling facility to Martinez-based brewery

By JUDGE STRZEMP

By the end of this year customers will sip their last goodbye to local craft beer-maker, Shadow Puppet Brewing Co.

For nearly a decade, the company operated out of Livermore and offered a tasting room for its drinks. The brewery also reached its audience at large retailers like Safeway and Whole Foods as well as independent stores and local restaurants.

But on the business side, operations were strained in California's craft beer industry, according to founder and CEO Brian Blackburn. So as the company's lease on Arroyo Vista neared an end, the Blackburn family decided to leave the industry and "pass the torch on to somebody else," he told Livermore Vine.

A transition set for December, the facility buyer is Del Cielo Brewery Co., a Martinez-based

craft beer brewery.

"We would like to sincerely thank our amazing and loyal customer base that we've built over the years serving NorCal," Blackburn said. "Surprising and delighting our customers with our new and innovative flavors and styles is 'why we do what we do,' and it has been our pleasure sharing that with the community."

The brewery began operations in 2015, and by mid-2016 it began production.

Since its beginning, the company has been intent on making well-balanced beverages with unique ingredients and flavors that defy expectations of craft beer, Blackburn said.

By October 2016, Shadow Puppet opened its tasting room to the public.

At its daily tasting room, Shadow Puppet served at least 26 rotating beers, hard seltzers and hard

root beer all made in-house. These included a number of the award-winners like Lush Nectar Hazy IPA, Kokonati Coconut Porter and Tartbreak Guava Sour.

The tasting room is still the best place to find Shadow Puppet beverages, Blackburn said. That is, until November.

Its scheduled food truck calendar will also be maintained through November.

For now, the company maintains its hours of operation and happy hours schedule, according to its announcement. Any future changes will be communicated to customers.

Special events, like the Oktoberfest Party (Oct. 19) and the Livermore Vinyl Record Show (Oct. 20) will not be affected by the company's impending closure.

The brewery wants to remind customers to use all gift cards and



SHADOW PUPPET

A past event by Shadow Puppet Brewing Co., which will be closing its doors this fall after nearly a decade in Livermore.

membership credits and to return at-home Shadow Puppet kegs as soon as possible, according to management.

At the end of a farewell message

to customers, the company wrote, "It has been our true pleasure serving you over the years and we look forward to raising a pint with you on the other side of the bar! Cheers!" ■

PRINCIPAL

Continued from Page 5

managing district-wide educational technology initiatives as well as developing various professional development opportunities," Gannon said. "Mr. Yee also spearheaded the

district's Ethnic Studies Committee, leading the development of an innovative and culturally responsive curriculum that is now part of our 9th-grade program."

Before Yee took over at the beginning of this month, former administrators like Pleasanton Middle

School principal John Whitney, who retired in 2013, and former Amador principal Joshua Butterfield, who left in 2022 to assume his current position as director of secondary education, had been offering their support at substitute administrators.

Gannon said even former

Amador football coach Rick Sira, who stepped down in 2016 after 30 years of coaching, jumped in to help.

But while he thanked them all for their help and their helpful knowledge, Gannon said Whitney wasn't able to be there full-time and that it was difficult not having a single

person heading the school, which is why Yee was appointed.

Gannon said Yee's temporary assignment is open-ended right now because the district's main priority at the moment was providing stability for the school site and they felt Yee was the best person to do so. ■

NURSES

Continued from Page 5

both negotiation teams for all their hard work in reaching an agreement we could all support."

According to the union press release, one of the highlights from the new contract include strong

workplace violence protections that "give nurses a voice in addressing workplace violence and support following violent incidents."

"Through our solidarity, nurses were able to secure a stronger contract that helps to prevent workplace violence and keep nurses and patients safe in the hospital,"

Arrielle Bouligny, a nurse in the hospital's intensive care unit, said in the press release.

The contract also includes safe staffing provisions like meal and break relief for all units at the hospital throughout the entire shift, as well as "economic gains to help retain and recruit experienced nurses,"

according to the press release.

"Nurses have taken a big step in a positive direction toward addressing issues of patient safety at our hospital," Khadijah Abdul-Aleem, a nurse in the pre-operative unit, said in the press release. "With improvements like meal- and break-relief provisions, our new contract will

help us better advocate for ourselves and for our patients."

The new contract will be in effect until Oct. 9, 2027, according to the nurses association. CNA representatives told the Weekly that the new contract will provide an 18% increase in wages over the next three years. ■

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Dear Residents of the City of Dublin

It is my honor to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Razi Hasni, a dedicated business owner, community leader, and parent, who I believe would be an outstanding representative on our city council.

As a local business owner and active member of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, Razi Hasni has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the economic growth and vitality of our city. His involvement in organizing local events and initiatives through the Chamber has not only supported fellow business owners but also enhanced the overall quality of life for all residents. He consistently strives to foster collaboration between businesses, residents, and local government, recognizing that strong partnerships are the cornerstone of a thriving community.

Beyond his professional achievements, Razi is deeply involved in community life. Whether volunteering for local events, leading fundraising efforts for neighborhood causes, or simply engaging with residents, he has always shown a genuine passion for making Dublin a better place for everyone. Razi Hasni's integrity, dedication, and ability to listen to diverse perspectives set him apart as a leader who understands the needs and aspirations of our citizens.

As a parent, Razi has also played an active role in our local schools. From participating in parent-teacher associations to volunteering at school events, he is well-known and respected by teachers, students, and fellow parents. His commitment to ensuring that our schools provide the best possible education for all children reflect his broader commitment to the future of our community.

I am confident that Razi will bring the same energy, compassion, and dedication to the role of city council member that he has shown in all aspects of his professional and personal life. I strongly encourage you to give his candidacy the highest consideration. Our city would greatly benefit from his leadership.

Dominick Piegaro,
Branch Manager and Chair of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce

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Fox named new Dublin police chief as Schmidt retires

Commander has long career with sheriff's office, including experience in city

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The city of Dublin has selected Victor Fox, a commander for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, as the new chief of Dublin Police Services, a day after city officials announced that police chief Nathan "Nate" Schmidt was retiring.

"I am proud to have served the citizens of Alameda County and I am honored to once again serve the residents of the city of Dublin as your new chief of police," Fox said in a press release on Wednesday.

City Manager Colleen Tribby appointed Fox to take over the position starting Wednesday. The city contracts with the sheriff's office for police services, but Dublin's city manager gets final



Victor Fox



Nate Schmidt

confirmation of the county candidates for police chief.

"I am pleased that Commander Fox will take the reins as police chief of Dublin Police Services," Tribby said in the press release. "His previous experience working at Dublin Police Services will enable him to step in and hit the ground running in order to lead the department and serve the people of Dublin."

Schmidt left his post on Tuesday — the same day the city announced his departure — after having been on the job since March 19, 2023,

Shari Jackman, Dublin's public information officer, told the Weekly that the announcement might have seemed abrupt but, in fact, the outgoing police chief had already been in discussions with the city manager about retiring in order to spend more time with his family.

"He's been thinking about this for a while," Jackman said regarding Schmidt's decision to retire.

"It has been an honor to serve the City of Dublin for nearly 20 years, and the last 18 months as the chief of police," Schmidt said in Tuesday's press release. "As I prepare to retire from my role

as police chief, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to the residents, businesses, and leaders of this wonderful city."

Dublin has been contracting the Alameda County Sheriff's Office to manage the Dublin Police Services ever since the city's incorporation in 1982.

Fox, like Schmidt, has had a long history with the sheriff's office — over 22 years to be exact, according to the city.

He worked at the Eden Township Substation as a patrol deputy and spent over four years assigned to the community-oriented policing and problem-solving unit before being promoted to sergeant, according to Wednesday's press release.

As sergeant, Fox worked as a

shift supervisor at the Santa Rita Jail, the Glenn E. Dyer Detention Facility and the Eden Township Substation. He was later promoted to lieutenant and was assigned as a watch commander at the Santa Rita Jail and Dublin Police Services, where he oversaw the operations division, administration, the investigations unit, and served as the public information officer.

Fox was then promoted to captain in 2019 before he was assigned to the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Regional Training Center in April of 2020 where he served as the training manager and academy director for the agency and oversaw the education and graduation of nearly 1,000 law enforcement officers, according to Wednesday's press release. ■

City calls for people to create Día de Los Muertos altars

Folks have until next weekend to reserve their spots in library exhibit

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton Public Library is once again looking for people to create ofrendas so that the city can display the altars and offerings inside the library as part of its Día de Los Muertos special community exhibition at the beginning of next month.

The exhibit is part of the city's Cultural Celebration Series, which it started last year and brought back as a way to connect and celebrate different cultures.

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

"Día de Los Muertos is a

traditional Meso-American holiday dedicated to honoring ancestors," according to a press release from the city. "In Mexico, neighbors gather in local cemeteries to share food, music, and fun with their extended community, both living and departed.

According to the press release, the city's Library and Recreation Department's mission is to help residents "discover, connect, enjoy," which is what the library aims to do with its exhibit.

"By discovering, connecting and enjoying this cultural tradition, the Pleasanton Library will be hosting a celebration and is asking for the community's help in creating the displays," according to the Oct. 3 press release. "This is an opportunity to pay homage to ancestors by creating ofrendas that will be

displayed at the library."

Members of the community have until no later than next Saturday (Oct. 26) at 5 p.m. to fill out forms to reserve exhibit space for their altars. According to the city, there

is still space available but it is limited to a first come, first serve basis.

The library Día de Los Muertos exhibit viewing will take place on Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and

there will also be a bilingual storytime at 11 a.m. The program is free and open to the public — to fill out reservation forms, visit the Firehouse Arts Center website at www.firehousearts.org. ■



CITY OF PLEASANTON

A photo of one of the ofrendas that was displayed in the library during last year's exhibit.

VIVEK MOHAN

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LARPD candidates share priorities leading up to election

Challengers, incumbents promise to address park closures, facility maintenance, programming

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Livermore voters will have to choose between the experience of two incumbents and the eagerness of two challengers who want to try new things as residents get set for the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors race this November.

The candidates vying for the pair of four-year seats on the board are incumbents James Boswell and Jan Palajac — the latter of whom said she has plenty of work she wants to do at the board — as well as first-time candidates Matthew Bogdanowicz and Jacob Vital who each have their own ideas to make recreation in Livermore better.

“Although current incumbents might be quick to talk about the work they’re proud of, they often neglect to tell you where they fell short,” Bogdanowicz told Livermore Vine.

Bogdanowicz is a longtime Livermore resident who is married with two children and currently works as a recreation supervisor and operations coordinator in the county.

“Recreational resources are a valuable benefit that helps build a strong sense of community and improves quality of life,” he said.

He said as a person with a master’s degree in recreation and more than



Jacob Vital



James Boswell



Jan Palajac



Matthew Bogdanowicz

30 years of working experience in and or related to recreation, he believes he is the best person for the job. Some of his priorities include tackling tough issues such as too many park closures, delays in completing certain projects and organizational and financial discrepancies.

“Not only do I have the direct experience and knowledge that will prove beneficial to the LARPD Board, but I have an active interest in the recreational resources from a working class family’s perspective,” Bogdanowicz said. “My background has benefited me with accumulated knowledge and experience in the private, corporate and municipality sectors.”

Fellow first-time candidate Vital is another long time native who in fact is the fourth generation of his family who live in Livermore.

“The community here is very important to me,” he told Livermore Vine.

Vital said he is someone who has helped out with many community events in the past and is so integrated in the city with his family owning two businesses that have been around for 20 years. That’s why when he saw all of the things that needed to be fixed or maintained in the community, he wanted to take action.

“The way that I see it, it is my duty to help foster more growth in the community and ensure that we can continue to have the very unique and important culture that Livermore has,” he said.

Vital’s top priorities if he is elected will be restoring or updating parks, providing and being involved in more after school programs and building more of a cohesion between LARPD, the city and the county. He also wants to ensure that residents’ voices are heard; specifically the voices of parents and organizations like youth sports which he has heard

about issues regarding equitable access to parks.

But for incumbent Palajac, experience is everything.

Palajac was a licensed landscape architect for 35 years until she retired in 2017. She spent the last 17 years of her career as a landscape architect for San Jose where she was responsible for the design and construction of parks and urban trails.

Shortly after moving to Livermore in 2016, she decided to put her knowledge to use and ran for the LARPD board because she said she liked her new community so much. She won the nomination and was reelected in 2020.

Palajac, who is currently serving as the vice chair of the board, also served as the president during the pandemic, which she said was a tough time for LARPD.

She said they faced heavy personnel cuts but that as the dust settled from the pandemic, the organization was able to rebuild and restructure in a more streamlined manner. She also said they were able to update policies and address pension liability.

“LARPD is in a much stronger position now than it was prior to the pandemic but we still have a lot to do and that’s the reason I want to run again,” she told Livermore Vine.

If she is reelected, she said her

priorities would be continuing to promote a diverse variety of programs, especially for the underserved communities; addressing the deferred maintenance of LARPD’s facilities and finding additional funding sources for the organization’s programs and facilities.

“We need to ensure that LARPD remains a leader in providing the types of recreation, facilities and programs that will help to advance the quality of life in the Livermore area,” she said. “With my experience as a landscape architect, I’m the best candidate to do that.”

Boswell was the only candidate who didn’t respond for comments after multiple attempts. However, according to his website, the incumbent — who won the seat in 2020 — is another longtime resident who has a 17-year history in law enforcement.

His background states that he has knowledge in “finance, managing people, and being a steward of our land which translates directly into the parks and open spaces we use for recreation.”

According to his website, his goals are getting more people involved in programs and expanding “fitness opportunities to children and seniors who have seen their opportunities for exercise at school and at home all but eliminated.” ■

DUSD DEATHS

Continued from Page 7

Facebook. The Granada High School alum died at the hospital in Walnut Creek surrounded by loved ones on Oct. 9. She was 33.

A memorial service is being planned for next Sunday (Oct. 27) at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, time still to be determined, Repine’s family said. School officials received the news on the morning of Oct. 9 but were not able to inform students that day, according to Witczak, who encouraged parents to talk with their children. She offered tips for having these

potentially difficult conversations in her message to families: Express concern, be genuine, invite the conversation, listen and observe.

She also said that parents might see some problems arise like clinging, withdrawal, worry and an increase in immature behavior.

“Please join us in keeping Ms. Repine’s family in your hearts and thoughts,” Witczak wrote. “This is a profound loss for all of us, and our deepest sympathy goes out to Ms. Repine’s loved ones during this time.”

Just two weeks earlier, DUSD was hit with the death of Orman (also known as Mr. Rocky).

As a staff member, he made sure students had access to a nutritious breakfast and lunch, according to the district.

“Our Shark Community knew and loved him. His smile, laughter, and acts of kindness embodied the spirit and generosity of our community,” Dublin Elementary principal Lauren McGovern wrote. “His reach was long, genuine, and energetic.”

Orman died during the last weekend of September, according to school officials. A cause of his death wasn’t immediately released.

McGovern said that the school didn’t plan to address the loss with students out of respect for the

family’s privacy. But she encouraged parents to talk with their children about this loss.

It’s a tragedy the school was still coming to terms with, McGovern wrote to the community on Sept. 30.

“If you feel that your family needs additional support processing this news, please reach out to our school

counselor, Erin Johnson,” McGovern offers. “Let us lean on each other and show grace and gratitude for one another as we navigate through this challenging time.”

A candlelight vigil in Orman’s honor was set to be held at Dublin Elementary on Wednesday evening, after the Weekly went to press. ■



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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Capturing phenomena

Tri-Valley residents joined their peers across the world in recent days in catching a glimpse of the C/2023 A3 Comet (Tsuchinshan-ATLAS), a rare comet sighting clear to the naked eye. It reached its closest point to Earth on Oct. 12. Several readers commented to the Pleasanton Weekly about the comet, including Michael Ventura and Anne Fox sending in photos taken from their neighborhoods. Also keeping a (camera) eye out for recent phenomena, former Weekly photographer Mike Sedlak, who now lives in Minnesota, shared a stunning picture he took of the Northern Lights on the night of Oct. 10.

BART postpones track shutdowns planned for October, November

Work between Rockridge, MacArthur and 19th Street will occur in 2025 instead

BY BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

BART has delayed track shutdowns between multiple stations that were originally

planned for two weekends in October and November.

In a statement last week, BART said the track shutdowns between

the Rockridge, MacArthur, and 19th Street stations in Oakland will be conducted next year instead.

"The postponement will allow

BART to focus on other priorities to improve reliability and limit future disruptions. We also continue to evaluate lessons learned from the first shutdown weekend in June, as we plan to adjust our approach and execution. BART's goal remains to minimize short term impacts on riders by maximizing work efficiency," the transit agency said.

"Temporary shutdowns create

a safe workspace for track crews while providing a massive boost in productivity thanks to uninterrupted 24/7 work. This project will benefit riders for decades to come by improving the reliability of the core of BART," the agency added.

According to BART, the rebuilding work will be on 18 non-consecutive weekends over the next three years starting in 2025. ■

SENATE

Continued from Page 5

veteran care for traumatic brain injuries. McNerney also obtained federal funding to hire more police officers and support youth programs and women's health centers, according to his website.

Through McNerney's work in Congress, he was scored an A+ by the Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California, a union called AFL-CIO and the Sierra Club, according to his website.

"I'm running for State Senate to continue my service to our community. We deserve leadership that fights for our children's future — a future with better healthcare, a better environment, and better opportunities for education and job creation right here in our community," McNerney said on his website. "I've done it before and I am able to do it again."

One of the top issues he'd like to address in District 5 is water security, McNerney told the Pleasanton Weekly.

In terms of water infrastructure, he is against the Delta Tunnel project that would divert some water from the Sacramento River to elsewhere in the state.

"Our water infrastructure must work for all Californians, not just special interests in Southern California," McNerney said on this website. "That's why I have always been an active leader in the bipartisan, cross-sector coalition against the Tunnels, which would endanger our agricultural economy, our natural ecosystem, and our access to clean water."

He said he will also support policies for stronger regulations against over-pumping groundwater and contamination. He pushes for water recycling, stormwater capture, water efficiency and desalination efforts too.

As for a "clean economy," McNerney said he supports completion of the Valley Link passenger rail service along the Altamont Pass to reduce traffic and pollution.

"Developing a clean energy infrastructure, such as the ValleyLink project, will create good-paying jobs and transition the economy toward renewable energy, reducing carbon emissions," he told the Weekly.

As part of his plan, he intends to push Sacramento for investments in more local wind and solar power industries to reduce carbon emissions and the risk of blackouts, according to his website.

Regarding economics in general, he aims to reduce large disparities in income and wealth through tax and incentive policies.

On housing, McNerney said it's impossible for most working-class and young Californians to attain housing stability, especially in District 5.

As a first step, he said, "I believe in prioritizing housing-first policies, which focus on providing an adequate supply of affordable housing as a foundation for individuals and families experiencing homelessness."

Following that, McNerney advocates for supportive services and the building of affordable houses as well as tenant assistance and protection.

As a resident of San Joaquin County for over three decades, Shoemaker said on his website, "I am proud of our Valley Values of strong faith, loving families and hard work."

He aims to rescind "soft-on-crime initiatives," reduce taxes and regulations and improve educational opportunities for students while increasing parental involvement.

"It is time to reject Sacramento's special interest class and start doing what is right for working families," Shoemaker said on his website. "I look forward to partnering with you to reform our dysfunctional state government and make California a better place for all our families."

Growing up, Shoemaker's first business was selling popcorn when he was five years old, according to his website. After moving to South Dakota and learning how to harvest grain, he began driving grain around the nation. This led him to start his own trucking business.

Later, he owned and operated multiple businesses in building, construction, and pool maintenance. Outside of work, Shoemaker volunteers for his church and mission projects. And he is involved with the local Farm Bureau.

In District 5, Shoemaker said the rising crime rate is one of the area's most pressing issues, he told the Weekly. In particular, retail theft is harming families and small businesses in the Tri-Valley.

He pointed to Proposition 47, which changed certain theft and drug possession offenses from felonies to misdemeanors, as the cause of rising crime rates. The 2014 proposition was intended to expand alternatives to prison for non-serious, non-violent crimes and reroute prison spending to prevention and support programs, according to the California Courts website.

"I am committed to repealing Prop 47, restoring stricter penalties, and ensuring law enforcement has the tools needed to protect our community, so residents and businesses can thrive without fear," he said.

He also expressed support for Prop 36, which "allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs and for thefts under \$950", according to the California Voters Guide website.

Another issue he sees is California families living paycheck to paycheck. As a solution, Shoemaker suggested decreasing taxes for California families, particularly that on gas, according to his website.

"While many California families struggle to make ends meet, Sacramento politicians continue to impose higher taxes and interfere in our daily lives, infringing on our freedoms," he told the Weekly. "It's time to reject the influence of special interest groups and prioritize the needs of working families."

Shoemaker would like to see less governmental regulations too.

"As a small business owner, I am hampered by California's heavy-handed anti-business regulations daily," he said on his website. "As a Teamster (a member of the Teamsters Union), I have witnessed extreme environmentalist special interests kill working family jobs."

Regarding education, he wants to encourage parents to become more

involved in their students' schooling, according to his website. This includes curriculum decisions.

"As a parent, I have always been frustrated with California's lack of quality education and Sacramento's use of our education system as a social engineering experiment instead of teaching students the fundamentals needed for success," he said on his website.

As for water, he wants to protect the Delta and build more water storage facilities.

And to address climate change, he wants to prioritize nuclear power. "Nuclear energy offers a reliable, clean, and sustainable solution that can meet our energy needs without burdening taxpayers or compromising economic growth," Shoemaker said.

On homelessness, he says he will work for homeless people in the capitol and locally. He plans to invest in mental health and drug rehabilitation services while also enforcing current laws that "will remove law-breaking homeless from our streets and parks," he said on his website.

"One key issue is the lack of accountability for nonprofits that fail to deliver on their promises and instead, use government funds to boost their salaries," Shoemaker told the Weekly. "To address this, I believe in privatizing aspects of homeless care while ensuring proper oversight." ■

TAKE US ALONG



A desert ride: The Markel family spent an incredible week in Morocco traveling along the curvy roads of the Atlas Mountains to reach the sand dunes of Erg Chebbi on the western edge of the Sahara Desert. Riding camels through the Sahara at sunset was a major bucket list item for this family. From left: Jenny Mack, Ellen Markel and (with their faces covered by traditional Tuareg tagelmust scarves) Kanoa Markel and Patrick Markel.

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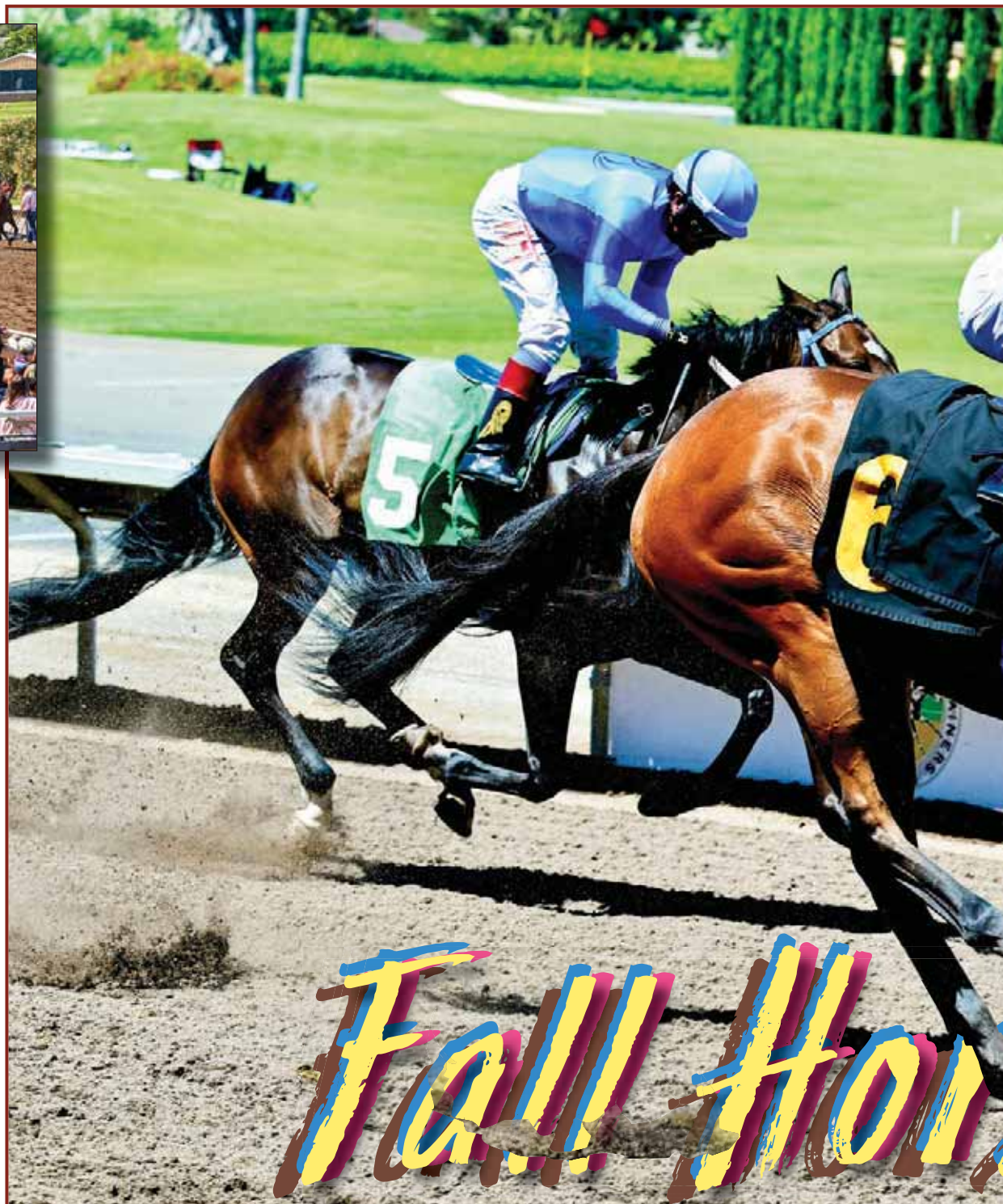
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Pleasanton has flirted in the past with horse racing outside of the normal summer fair dates.

And there have always been thoughts about what it might be like to have racing throughout the year at the iconic Pleasanton track, the oldest one-mile dirt track in the United States.

This Saturday (Oct. 19), the chance to be a year-round racing facility gets real, as the inaugural Golden State Racing meet kicks off its 26-day fall meet at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

"It's an exciting time," said Allen Aldrich, a longtime horse owner who was raised in Pleasanton. He is a very influential figure in California horse racing and was instrumental in bringing Golden State Racing to town.

The race meet is set Fridays to Sundays through Dec. 15.

That the race meet is even happening was a surprise to many and was certainly thought of as a long shot by more than a few people.

It all came together quickly after 1st Racing — a division of The Stronach Group (TSG) — finally made good in June on one of their threats that they were closing Golden Gate Fields in June.

The closing of Bay Meadows in 2008 left Golden Gate Fields as the lone year-round racetrack in the northern half of the state, and with that came the feeling of entitlement to whatever they wanted.

That was shown when TSG decided to consolidate all their operations in Southern California where they own Santa Anita Park and San Luis Rey Downs training center.

Their plan was simple: bring an end to live racing in Northern California, giving TSG a monopoly on horse racing in the state.

But instead of caving, the organizations in the north said, not so fast, and discussions about what could happen moved to what needs to happen and happen quickly.

The California Authority of Racing Fairs, the Northern California Fairs, and the horsemen of the area all came together and put together a plan.

That was the genesis of Golden State Racing.

"From the start (TSG's) plan was to close down racing in Northern California for the so-called benefit of the south," said Larry Swartzlander, the executive director of CARF. "There was never any hesitation. The fairs are expanding to include GGF dates and push hard for improving the race quality in the north but work with the south."

The first thing was to determine which venue would be used.

"We started not knowing where we would race," Aldrich explained. "We asked Santa Rosa (they have an existing turf course), then Sacramento — (Pleasanton) was the last man standing."

The biggest player in Golden State Racing is the Alameda County Fair. If they don't buy-in 100%, it doesn't happen. Jerome Hoban is the CEO of the Alameda County Fair and a big supporter of horse racing, which has been the key.

Hoban laid out the beginning of the Pleasanton plan.

"In March it was determined that it was too expensive, too much time, and there were contractual conflicts to take year-round racing to Cal Expo in Sacramento. That's when the planning and logistic started," Hoban said.

The first step was to procure more stalls. With Golden Gate Fields shutting down, horses needed to find homes. The facility in Pleasanton brought in more, increasing to around 1,000 stalls.

With the horses, trainers and the trainers' teams taken care of, the bid was launched to get the Golden Gate Fields dates. Of course, TSG thought it would be easy to end NorCal racing.

What they didn't factor was everyone coming together so quickly and unified to save racing in the northern half of California.

"The northern horsemen are totally unified," Swartzlander said.

"The biggest plus is the horsemen are all together," Aldrich added. "They want to do whatever it takes to make it work."

The man charged with filling the races — Tom Doutrich, the racing secretary for both CARF and Golden State Racing — is blown away by everyone coming together so rapidly.

Fall! How!

COME TO FA Welcoming inaugural Golden State 'the best time for racing in No

"This is the most unified I have seen it in my 30 years of being in the industry," Doutrich said.

The unity, which is extremely rare in the horse racing world, seemed to hit home to the California Horse Racing Board.

After a contentious four-hour meeting in March, the CHRB awarded the 2024 fall racing dates previously held by Golden Gate Fields to Golden State Racing by a 6-0 vote.

Recently the 2025 dates for the first half of the year were also awarded to GSR, thus setting up racing in Pleasanton from Oct. 19 through the Alameda County Fair in 2025.

"The CHRB board recognizes the importance of breeding and successful racing in the north in order to maintain racing in California," Swartzlander said.

Which brings us to Saturday and the opening day. Aside from a pair of short fall dates, Pleasanton has not had racing following the annual summer fair, and certainly has not had to run through the winter.

As far as the track itself is concerned, it will be fine, thanks in large part to track master Steve Woods. The track will be winterized, and Pleasanton won't miss a beat in inclement weather.

The racing fans may be another thing.

"Racing is an all-weather sport," Hoban said. "Our facility in Pleasanton is not weatherized and hosting crowds comfortably in the winter will be a challenge for customers. We do have a reasonably great climate all year long."

Doutrich knows at times it will be a challenge.



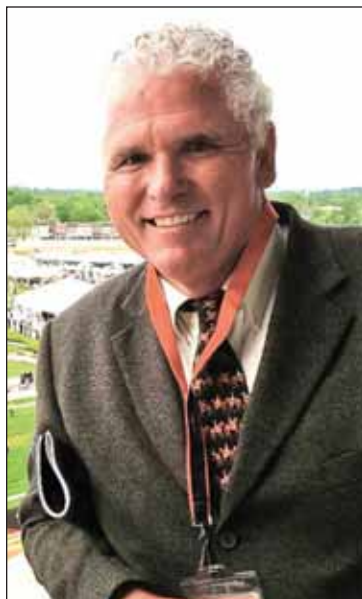
Jerome Hoban



ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

'The meet, Pleasanton is epicenter of Northern California'

BY DENNIS MILLER



Allen Aldrich

"People won't be coming to the races in shorts and flip-flops, but we'll get by," Doutrich said.

There is the climate-controlled Sky Lounge that will be open every day, with seats available for purchase.

Aldrich also pointed out there will be the use of existing facilities.

"You've got the Farmhouse right next door," he said of the attractively designed restaurant that is open during the fair. "We will bring in wagering machines and we have the TVs in there."

Everyone agrees what the key will be for a successful first race meet.

"We need to fill races and establish the Golden State Racing brand as a recognizable nationwide premier racing entity," Hoban said.

And to fill fields, you need horses to run.

"We expect near 1,000 horses in October," Swartzlander said. "We thought that if we still had 700 horses it would be fine. Our goals are to raise purses, attract out of state horsemen and increase commissions."

Doutrich has seen the willingness to all work together in the north a huge boost.

"This is the best time for racing in Northern California," Doutrich said. "The horsemen have come together and are engaging. You need a product that everyone wants to bet."

There is a purse structure of an average of \$170,000 a day, which was the last agreement set in place. By comparison, Golden Gate Fields was offering a purse structure of \$119,167 at the end of their time.

A big financial hurdle is the building of a turf course at Pleasanton.

It is universally agreed that the turf course will be needed for long-term success.

"Already in process," Swartzwelder said of the turf course. "It will be completed by mid-2026."

Hoban is optimistic but was also more measured.

"Fundraising and an economic model needs to pan out to justify a turf track," Hoban said. "It is definitely on our horizon and anticipated but the horse population will ultimately help make the determination of when."

With everything coming together to get the race meet started, one of the obvious keys to success is getting people to the track regularly.

The Alameda County Fair excels in marketing and has rolled their success during the fair into setting up promotions for the race meet.

"We have a great team and have created promotions that will help bring new fans to the track," said Wyatt Didericksen, the racing operations manager for the Alameda County Fairgrounds. "Opening day we have Octoberfest!"

There is also a Wine Fest on Saturday for Nov. 2, the second day of Breeders' Cup racing. The Trackside Terrace — a popular destination during the fair — is back, as is the Sky Lounge.

The Fan Cave, so popular during past fall meets in Pleasanton, is back again on the second level, allowing race fans to keep up with football games and other televised sporting events.

Sundays will feature \$5 beers and hot dogs, something that fits nicely with the Fan Cave.

What's the future look like to all the parties as GSR heads into its initial weekend? In one year? In five years?

"We hope to be a smooth-running machine in one year, with an established brand and remain the oldest one-mile dirt track in the nation," Hoban said, enthusiastically.

Didericksen echoed Hoban's feelings.

"One year from now, we are back running with a larger barn area and an established brand name," Didericksen said. "We hope to continue being an iconic facility that

introduces new fans to our industry as well as letting those that love the sport continue to enjoy it here in Northern California."

"In one year, we will know if the program will succeed," Swartzlander said. "In five years, we will most likely be racing with Del Mar with The Stronach Group likely gone."

Aldrich sees the possibility of a true Northern California circuit.

"I could see three-to-four-month boutique meets," said Aldrich. "Run in Santa Rosa for one, then Sacramento, and in Pleasanton. The horsemen are more comfortable shipping their horses around Northern California."

At the end of the day, Golden State Racing will need the support not only of the Northern California horsemen, but the greater Pleasanton and Bay Area communities.

Hoban sees that coming to fruition.

"We have a long history of racing and a very supportive community and surrounding region," Hoban said.

One area to be affected by the racing dates is the Pleasanton Golf Center, located on the inside of the racetrack. There will be no golfing on Fridays to Sundays, with tee times limited to Mondays through Thursdays.

Monday times are available from 7 a.m. to dark, with Tuesdays to Thursdays having times from 10:30 a.m. to dark.

It's uncharted waters for horse racing in Pleasanton, but Aldrich is optimistic.

"We don't know what we don't know," Aldrich said. "We have plenty of events planned. The unity is something I have never seen up here, and we are in it for all the right reasons." ■

The historic horse track at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton is hosting the inaugural Golden State Racing fall meet, on Fridays through Sundays until Dec. 15. (Photos at top of racing action during the 2024 Alameda County Fair; center photo by Chuck Deckert, flanked by photos courtesy Alameda County Fair.)

Chinese Szechuan continues to serve fan-favorite food

After initial sale falls through, Hopyard Village staple remains open ... but looking for new buyer

By DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Rumors that Chinese Szechuan restaurant will soon close are not true. The 37-year Pleasanton staple remains open, at least for a while. “We’ve had wonderful relationships with our longtime customers and seen their children and grandchildren dine with us. But we’re probably not going to feed their third generation,” said Huey (pronounced Who-ee) Wang, whose web address touts the year of their founding, chineseszechuan87.com.

In August, local social media pages lit up with displeasure when news spread that Chinese Szechuan was closing. But a month later, the sales contract fell through at escrow, disappointing Wang who continues to work with the landlord and a commercial real estate agent to find a buyer for the business. The closing date remains uncertain.

“We would like someone to take over the restaurant and serve the

same kind of food we do,” Wang said. “That would make our customers happy. But we don’t know the timing to find a buyer.”

The reason for closing is not related to the landlord, added Wang. “It is challenging to end our connection with Goble Properties, another family business, who have been kind to us. But the restaurant business is hard.” Wang survived the decline in guests during the pandemic years. The Hopyard Village shopping center, home to Chinese Szechuan, has rebounded with new tenants. But the trend to hybrid work keeps more employees at home rather than at their desk in nearby Hacienda business park, where they would pop over for takeout or gather with work groups at the larger tables with rotating lazy Susans.

The declining lunch volume from Hacienda has had a significant impact on Wang’s bottom line. Also, increased competition from newer restaurants in Dublin’s shopping centers



DEBORAH GROSSMAN

A dinner spread in Chinese Szechuan on a recent evening in Pleasanton.

and rising restaurant costs from ingredients to supplies have hurt profits. Yet Wang has kept prices at reasonable levels. Lunch specials are a full meal of egg roll, fried won ton, choice of rice with prices from \$15 to \$18 depending on the entrée.

On the menu, spicy dishes are marked with a red pepper. But you can order any hot-spicy dish, including the Szechuan named dishes, less spicy, and there are many milder Mandarin options. Chinese Szechuan also includes a fryer basket symbol in front of fried dishes, but Wang is quick to point out the popular Mandarin Chicken is “lightly” fried.

When you see menu items named after regular diners, you can surmise that the restaurant cares about its customers. On Wang’s menu, you’ll find Denny’s Pork, a stir fry with bell peppers and jalapeño, named for a longtime customer.

“We moved to Pleasanton in 1987, and we started dining at Chinese Szechuan which had opened that year,” said Ken Shabino, of Pleasanton. “At first, we would take the family when we didn’t want to cook. We had some of the kids’ birthday parties in the side room. A few years ago, we catered our wedding reception at the house with their food, and it was hit.”

Regulars have their favorites at Chinese Szechuan. Shabino was quick to share his frequent selections: potstickers, Wor Won Ton Soup with shrimp, pork and beef, pork fried rice, chicken chow fun with black bean sauce and Chinese

chicken salad.

Wang noted that the most popular menu item is Mongolian beef in a unique, not overly spicy brown sauce. Mandarin chicken and honey walnut prawns are also favorites. Wang is of Korean heritage and serves Jam Bong spicy soup, a specialty of Korean cuisine. The restaurant’s version of the traditional soup features house made, thin spaghetti-like noodles, spices, seafood and pork.

A secret ingredient at Chinese Szechuan is server Tina Wang, who began working for her sister 23 years ago. She warmly welcomes everyone who enters and greets regulars by name.

Guests are ready to order their favorite dishes. Liz Sufit of Pleasanton gravitates to honey walnut prawns or Empress Tsu-Shi’s prawns with broccoli, bamboo shoots and mushrooms in a white sauce. Sizzling rice soup is another regular order, which Sufit calls “Chinese penicillin”. Hot chicken broth is poured over the big bowl of crunchy rice at the table where it sizzles with a puff of steam. Her husband Howard Scott is partial to garlic eggplant and second-best choice, Mongolian beef.

“Our kids grew up eating here. It is one of the first restaurants they ever went to,” Sufit said. “Our daughter still likes mu shu, and we’ll bring her some takeout tonight.”

Sufit recalls choosing their favorite seating area with their young family. “The back section with large tables and lazy Susans was useful for ‘corralling’ the kids to keep them from running around the

restaurant,” added Sufit.

At lunch recently, Sammie Flanzbaum agreed about the value of the back section. “We had a large family dinner at Chinese Szechuan the day after our wedding. My young cousin stayed with us while we all enjoyed our meal.” Her parents joined her for lunch recently. Everyone especially enjoyed the broccoli beef in hot garlic sauce: “The broccoli retained its crispiness, and the beef was thinly sliced in a garlicky sauce with a vinegary kick that tickled your tongue,” said her father, Joss. Sammie’s Kung Pao chicken was not overpowered by the spice. The group were fans of the Mandarin chicken which arrived later with its crunchy, non-greasy texture.

A resident of Concord, Flanzbaum is periodically asked to pet sit at her parent’s home in Pleasanton. “My treat is ordering from Chinese Szechuan. I get takeout on the first day — chicken chow mein, green beans and one more entrée — which lasts while they are gone,” said Flanzbaum. Wang and her guests are in a waiting game for news of a buyer. Meanwhile regular customer Shabino is dining at Chinese Szechuan more frequently and as usual, over-orders and receives a box for leftovers.

“It’s a friendly, wonderful place where you feel at home,” Shabino said. “They make us feel special, kind of like family. They know our favorite table, and they know our names. We recognize others when we dine — they are at their favorite table, too.” ■

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DEBORAH GROSSMAN

Chinese Szechuan owner Huey Wang says her restaurant remains open, but a sale of the business is hopefully on the horizon.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Judge sentences dealer after cocaine, ID theft materials found in Pleasanton home

A man was sentenced last month to seven years in federal prison for having over two pounds of cocaine at his home in Pleasanton as well as identity theft materials, according to court documents.

The U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force arrested 41-year-old Chanta Duane Hopkins, who had a federal warrant for supervised release violation, at his home in Pleasanton on Oct. 24, 2023. Hopkins initially had a warrant out for his arrest in December 2021 for allegedly violating conditions of a supervised release from the federal court.

According to court documents, Hopkins had a history of similar narcotic and identity theft related charges in the past and was even sentenced to seven years in federal prison for those previous charges. But in 2021, he got a compassionate release from prison due to the COVID-19 pandemic, court documents show.

He had served four years in prison up until that point.

Hopkins was supposed to serve the remainder of his sentence in home confinement for two years with a full search condition, but according to his sentencing memorandum, Hopkins absconded from supervision.

Court documents show that law enforcement attempted to contact Hopkins multiple times in 2021 and 2022 for allegations of grand theft and evading police officers, but it wasn't until he was arrested last October that federal agents found all the evidence that led up to his most recent sentencing.

According to his sentencing memorandum, agents found 1.16 kilograms of cocaine that Hopkins later admitted as part of his plea agreement he had with the intent to distribute. He also admitted to possessing, without permission, more than five identification documents that belonged to other people.

During the search of his home, agents discovered other identity theft materials such as credit card scanners, a credit card printer, several payment cards and social security cards that weren't his, among many other items, according to court records.

Court documents also show that agents found at least 200 additional grams of cocaine, 264 grams of methamphetamine, 2.3 grams of fentanyl and two unregistered guns.

"He possessed with the intent to distribute a significant amount of narcotics, committed large-scale identity theft, and agents found two firearms when searching his home, including one behind the bed in which he appeared to be sleeping," according to court documents. "Most egregious, (Hopkins) engaged in this activity after being granted compassionate release, absconding from supervision, and

engaging in additional criminal activity while on the lam."

While prosecutors pointed out in Hopkins sentencing memorandum that the sentencing was the same amount of time he was sentenced for his past charges — the main question was if he should have received more time given he was a repeat offender — they noted that he had only served four years out of the seven, which is why they believed seven years for this recent trial was sufficient.

They also took into account that Hopkins pleaded guilty before he was even charged for these most recent crimes which according to the court document, demonstrates "an early acceptance of responsibility and allowing the government to conserve resources."

—Christian Trujano

In other business

- One or more unidentified students from Granada High School ignited fireworks outside the boys' locker room at the end of lunch break last week, causing panic among some students, according to a message the school's principal Clark Conover sent to families.

"Please rest assured that this was not gun violence and no students or staff were harmed," Conover said in the statement on Oct. 9.

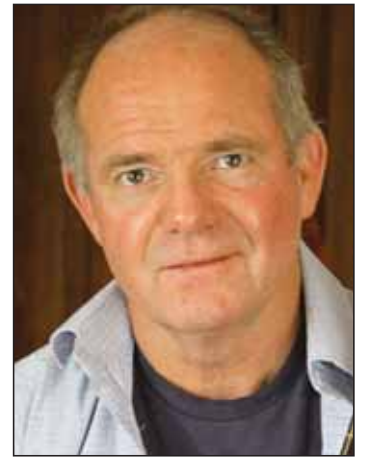
Conover also told parents to direct their students back to school if they left campus due to the incident.

While an investigation is still

See BULLETIN on Page 16

George L. Bowen

October 13, 1954 – August 19, 2024



George's biggest passions were his faith, his family, music and serving others. He was a humble, down-to-earth guy who preferred shorts and flip-flops and always took time to say hello or stop and help a stranger. A 39-year resident of Pleasanton, George had a heart for wounded military veterans, even visiting many at Bethesda Naval Hospital. In 2013,

inspired by those visits, he organized a benefit concert featuring Kenny Loggins at Wente Vineyards to support local wounded warriors. He was a committed servant of Christ and an active member of Valley Community Church for many years, where he played guitar, bass and sang in the worship band, was an elder, and led small groups. In 2010, he donated his kidney to a friend in need. His passion for his community led him to run for City Council in 2014. Always active, George enjoyed setting challenging athletic goals: He competed in several triathlons, ran a marathon, cycled a century, and completed the Alcatraz swim 10 times. He could often be found in the pool at Bay Club or birdwatching and hiking on the Pleasanton Ridge.

George grew up as the second of three sons in La Jolla, California, where he developed a lifelong bond with the ocean and became a skilled scuba diver and surfer. Along with his older brother Paul, he performed and recorded multiple albums with the successful folk rock duo Bowen & Richards in the 1970s. Their music was played on the radio and received critical acclaim in Billboard Magazine. The release of Paul Simon's song "The Boxer" in 1969 inspired George to master playing the acoustic guitar, in addition to being an accomplished bass player. In 1978, he married the love of his life, Jane Otto, with whom he had three children: Kate, George and Andrew. He spent his career working his way up the ranks of the insurance company California Casualty, from sales associate to senior vice president of marketing. In 2008, he co-founded Impact Teen Drivers, a national organization dedicated to keeping young people safe behind the wheel. After retiring in 2011, he worked as an insurance marketing consultant. His many years in music eventually led him to build acoustic guitars, a craft he developed to a high level of excellence. Earlier this year, an exquisite Bowen guitar with a 600-year-old spruce top from Munich was featured in a memorable Doyle Dykes concert in Pleasanton. George's son Andrew has taken over Bowen Guitars and will carry on the legacy.

After a two-year battle with ALS, George passed away in his home on August 19. He is survived by his loving wife Jane, their three children and their eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lowell R. and Marie Bowen Lingenfelter. George was a caring and devoted husband, father, friend and colleague. Known for his humor and generosity, he loved to learn and meet new people everywhere he went. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, October 28 at 1:30 p.m. at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton, CA.

Donations in George's memory may be made to:

- ALS Network, P.O. Box 7082, Woodland Hills, CA. 91365 (Note: George Bowen)
- Doyle Dykes, P.O. Box 5358, Cleveland, TN 37312
- LifeBranch Institute, PO Box 8097, Laguna Hills, CA 92654
- ALS CURE Project, alsure.org.

PAID OBITUARY

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available.

Oct. 13

Domestic battery

■ 12:46 p.m. on Jolene Court

DUI

■ 8:29 p.m. on the 3800 block of Vineyard Avenue

Oct. 12

Warrant arrest

■ 1:38 p.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

■ 3:18 p.m. on the 4500 block of Rosewood Drive

Oct. 11

Fraud

■ 12:45 p.m. on the 1000 block of Serpentine Lane

Vandalism

■ 3:08 p.m. on the 5800 block of Owens Drive

Oct. 10

Theft

■ 8:41 a.m., 5200 block of Dolores Drive; theft from auto

■ 2:01 p.m. on the 5600 block of Stoneridge Drive

■ 4:52 p.m. on the 4100 block of Hazelhurst Court

Domestic battery

■ 8:15 p.m. on Owens Drive

Oct. 9

Theft

■ 9:29 a.m., 6200 block of Roslin Court; theft from auto

■ 9:44 a.m., 6200 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; bicycle theft

■ 11:15 a.m. on the 3900 block of Santa Rita Road

Vandalism

■ 9:49 a.m. on the 4600 block of Cochise Court

Assault/battery

■ 3:43 p.m. on the 5700 block of Gibraltar Drive

Burglary

■ 3:50 p.m. on the 3400 block of Serra Circle

Fraud

■ 9 p.m. on the 3400 block of Norton Way

Oct. 8

Arson

■ 1:22 p.m. on the 2500 block of Santa Rita Road

Warrant arrest

■ 3:30 p.m. on the 6000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

Shoplifting

■ 7:14 p.m. on the 6100 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

Domestic battery

■ 7:44 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

Oct. 7

Domestic battery

■ 12:17 a.m. on Chabot Drive

■ 11:36 p.m. on Rose Avenue

Assault/battery

■ 5:43 a.m. on the 800 block of Division Street

Graffiti offense

■ 9:06 a.m. at Main Street and Del Valle Parkway

Theft

■ 9:22 a.m. on the 000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road

■ 12:10 p.m., 6200 block of Roslin Court; theft from auto

■ 8:42 p.m., 1700 block of Santa Rita Road; shoplifting

Fraud

■ 11:21 a.m. on the 4400 block of Del Valle Parkway

Vandalism

■ 11:24 a.m. on the 6200 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

■ 11:01 p.m. on the 4600 block of Willow Road

Oct. 6

Theft

■ 3:15 p.m., 2600 block of Maria Street; auto theft

■ 7:04 p.m. on the 7200 block of Johnson Drive



Precursor parts to manufacture firearms recovered by the Livermore Police Department Crime Prevention Unit after serving multiple warrants in Livermore and Stockton.

BULLETIN

Continued from Page 15

underway to determine who set off the fireworks, Conover ended his message to families by saying the responsible individual(s) will receive “an appropriate consequence”.

—Jude Strzemp

- Livermore police have arrested four people since Oct. 1 for allegedly possessing 15 stolen guns for sale, a pound of methamphetamine and stolen bicycles.

Police arrested 29-year-old Yvonne Nolasco-Barajas of Livermore,

45-year-old transient Ramon Vaca, 38-year-old transient Antonio Cruzmartinez, and 31-year-old transient Oscar Portillomaya.

Police received information in early August that two people possessed several stolen firearms and were attempting to sell them.

Over several weeks, police served several search warrants, including at a home in the 200 block of Wood Street, an encampment at North Livermore Avenue and Interstate 580, and a home in Stockton.

Police said they recovered 15 stolen firearms, multiple rounds of ammunition, numerous high-capacity magazines, precursor parts to manufacture firearms, 17 stolen bicycles, and a pound of methamphetamine.

Investigators linked most of

the stolen firearms to two residential burglaries last summer in Livermore. Police are returning the stolen property to the rightful owners.

Officers arrested Nolasco-Barajas and Vaca on Oct. 1; Cruzmartinez on Oct. 3, and Portillomaya on Oct. 7. The seized firearms included AR-15 rifles, shotguns, a Tech 9, and handguns.

The suspects face multiple felony charges including residential burglary, grand theft of a firearm, receiving stolen property, and illegally possessing an assault weapon. They were booked into Santa Rita Jail.

Anyone with information about the case can contact Livermore Police Department’s anonymous tip line at 925-371-4790.

—Tony Hicks, Bay City News

Fred Weakley

July 1, 1921 – October 5, 2024

After a journey that lasted over 103 years, our beloved father, Fred Weakley, passed away peacefully on October 5, 2024. Fred was born on July 1, 1921 in Burlingame, CA after his parents, Frederick and Laura, and brother, Robert, moved west from Pittsburgh. Soon after, the family moved to San Leandro, CA and his father started a business in Oakland that manufactured and sold men’s hats. In spite of opening the shop one month before the 1929 stock market crash and the start of the Great Depression, the family persevered and the hat shop, as it was simply known, survived and eventually thrived. While attending San Leandro High School, Fred met the love of his life, Grace Gale, and they were married on January 31, 1942. Fred was only 20 years old at the time, so he needed his parents’ permission, which they enthusiastically gave. A few weeks later, Fred was drafted into the Merchant Marines and sent to Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn for basic training. In an incredible stroke of luck, after he completed his training, Fred was assigned to a security detail at the US Maritime Service Officer Training School at Neptune Beach in Alameda, CA for the duration of his service. Adding to his good fortune, the base lacked sufficient housing, so he was given a stipend to live off base. Since home was just a few miles away, it couldn’t have worked out any better for him and Grace.



Fred and brother Bob, with significant help from mother Laura, eventually took over operation of the hat shop after Fred’s father suffered a series of heart attacks. They ran the shop until 1960 when hats, which were once de rigueur for men, went out of fashion and the shop was closed. After taking some time off, Fred got his real estate license and began a second career in residential real estate sales that eventually led to becoming a successful commercial real estate developer starting in the 1970s. Fred and his partners specialized in buying well-located properties and obtaining development entitlements, then selling or leasing the parcels to oil companies for gas stations and national food service corporations for restaurants. By the 1990s, Fred was no longer actively developing

properties, but he continued to manage the partnership’s assets and didn’t truly retire until he was in his mid 90s.

Fred acquired a love of sports from his father, particularly baseball, but it was the San Francisco 49ers that he enjoyed the most, so much so that in 1947, when the Niners were members of the All-America Football Conference, he purchased season tickets. He continued to be a season ticket holder throughout the Kezar Stadium days and until 2014 when the team moved from Candlestick Park to Levi’s Stadium.

Fred will be fondly remembered as a loving and inspirational father, a true gentleman who charmed everyone he met, as someone who loved to laugh and make others laugh, but most of all he will forever be remembered as a husband who was profoundly devoted to his wife, both in life and after her passing. He will join his beloved Grace at the Chapel of the Chimes columbarium in Oakland, California.

Fred was preceded in death by wife Grace (2010), father Fred E. Weakley, Sr. (1948), mother Laura (Wassum, 1980) and brother Robert (1970). He is survived by his five children Michael Weakley (Emmy) of Walnut Creek, Patricia Willis of Pleasanton, Barbara Weakley (Bill Saltzman) of Castro Valley, Daniel Weakley (Irene) of San Ramon and Joan Weakley (Robert Ingraham) of New York City. He also leaves behind granddaughters Andrea Cook (Jason) of Lee’s Summit, MO, Heather Saltzman of San Francisco, Laura Saltzman of Los Angeles and Allison Weakley of Burlingame; and great-granddaughters Riley Cook of Lee’s Summit and Margaux (Saltzman) Stark of San Francisco.

A vigil will be held at the Graham-Hitch Mortuary in Pleasanton on Wednesday, October 16 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A Catholic mass to commend Fred into the hands of Our Lord will be celebrated on Thursday, October 17 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, or St. Vincent de Paul Society are sincerely appreciated.

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- The bicyclist who was fatally struck by a car in Alamo last week has been identified as 45-year-old Walnut Creek resident Allison Merkle, according to the Contra Costa County Coroner’s Division.

Merkle was pronounced dead at the scene when first responders arrived after being dispatched to the scene on Livorna Road at the Interstate 680 underpass on Oct. 9 at 11:12 a.m., authorities said.

According to the initial details announced by California Highway Patrol that day, Merkle was bicycling westbound on Livorna Road when she was struck by a black Toyota bZ3X when the driver pulled onto the roadway from the shoulder he had previously been parked on. The driver did not sustain any injuries.

Merkle was a senior client adviser at the San Francisco-based insurance broking and risk management company Marsh, according to her LinkedIn profile. Prior to that, she worked in various roles at the Walnut Creek based commercial property insurance company FM Global for almost 20 years. ■

—Jeanita Lyman

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PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox, Ext. 1171,
gchannell@PleasantonWeekly.com

EDITORIAL

Editorial Director

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172,
jwalsh@PleasantonWeekly.com

Editor

Cierra Bailey, (650) 223-6528
cbailey@LivermoreVine.com

Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

Staff Reporters

Jeanita Lyman, Ext. 1179,
jlyman@PleasantonWeekly.com

Jude Strzemp, Ext. 1175,
jstrzemp@PleasantonWeekly.com

Christian Trujano, Ext. 1176,
ctrujano@PleasantonWeekly.com

Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Tim Hunt,
Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

Designers

Linda Atilano, Paul Llewellyn,
Mary Watanabe, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177,
kklein@PleasantonWeekly.com

Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173,
ccano@PleasantonWeekly.com

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174,
cchan@PleasantonWeekly.com

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email: circulation@
PleasantonWeekly.com

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GUEST OPINION

BY CRAIG FREEMAN

Measure PP keeps Pleasanton a safe place to live

I am a fire captain with the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department and treasurer of the IAFF Local 1974. Though I am not a Pleasanton resident, I have nine and a half years of service to the community. My brothers and sisters in the LPFD provide vital emergency services at all hours of the day to keep Pleasanton safe.

I urge Pleasanton voters to support Measure PP. This 10-year revenue measure ensures adequate funding to Pleasanton's emergency police and fire services.

The city's general fund also supports funding to municipal operation services, recreation and library services, economic development services and community housing. Approving Measure PP is critical in keeping Pleasanton a safe, functioning and stable community to live and do business.

The financial experts have given stark warnings about Pleasanton's financial future. A budget deficit of \$13 million over the next eight years has

been identified by City Manager Gerry Beaudin.

The current city manager began his current role with Pleasanton in 2022 and quickly realized the complete lack of accurate capital improvement and asset management tracking. City Manager Beaudin quickly implemented an asset management plan that accounts for the cost of repair to all city owned assets.

The closure of a fire station is a real possibility in the future. Closure and rerouting of emergency services will impact our community in disproportionate ways.

LPFD Station No. 2 in the Stoneridge Mall area, which serves the entire west side of Pleasanton, has been neglected for years and is in need of major structural improvements. Pleasanton voters need to understand that without the additional



revenue of Measure PP, city assets like LPFD Fire Station No. 2 have a high likelihood of closure.

Some in the community have stated that the city of Pleasanton is mismanaged and cannot maintain a balanced budget. In fact, the city is required by law to keep a balanced budget.

A contingency menu of potential city service reductions, released at the City Council meeting of May 21 of this year, points to \$8.85 million in future service cuts across all city departments if the city fails to increase revenue. These future budget cuts will be deep and harmful to the community.

These cuts include eliminating the city-funded school crossing guard program, reducing police services to eliminate school resource officers and K9 programs, a reduction in the number of service days at the Pleasanton Library, a reduction in the budget for street and sidewalk safety. Cuts like these will have a negative impact on public safety in Pleasanton and the community's overall quality of life.

Opponents to Measure PP are quick to tell the community that voters should not trust this current City Council and mayor. Yet it was this very same City Council and mayor who all moved quickly to approve \$2.5 million in spending cuts to the current operating budget, removed \$18 million in capital infrastructure projects, and directed City Manager Beaudin to continue to look for saving opportunities in the city organization.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has always been run on a "do more with less" mindset. Should Measure PP not pass, LPFD and by extension the city of Pleasanton, will be left with one option — "do less with less". Measure PP keeps Pleasanton a safe place to live. Vote Yes on PP! ■

Editor's note: Craig Freeman works as a fire captain for the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, serves as treasurer for the International Association of Firefighters Local 1974 and supports the Yes on PP campaign, Protect Pleasanton's Future Supporting Measure PP 2024.

LETTERS

This never happened to us in Oakland

This is a reminder for everyone to look after one another and say hi to your neighbors.

We moved here from Oakland over a year ago for better public schools, less crime, and small community feel.

Unfortunately we are still searching for that small community and neighborly kindness.

A year ago my 10-year-old was hit by a car walking to the park from Valley View Elementary (at First and Kottinger). He was fine (thank goodness), but the person who hit him got out of her car, asked if he was OK and drove away. She left him there alone!

Just two days ago, right by the 7Eleven at Hopyard, our 14-year-old fell off his scooter and badly broke his wrist and got pretty banged up. The person that saw him fall ran away instead of asking if he was OK. This is a busy street and no one stopped their car to check in! He walked all the way home with an obvious compound fracture. No one checked in.

We just moved to the Del Prado neighborhood. No neighbor has greeted us; I try and smile and say hi, but people avert my friendly gestures. I walk my dog to the park every evening and sadly no one says hello to each other.

This never happened in "dangerous" Oakland. We had a community

where we always had each other's back.

I am shocked. This letter is to remind everyone to check in with each other. Say hello to your neighbor. Stop and check in if you see someone in distress.

—Bonnie Machuca

No for now

While we applaud the city's efforts over the last two years to reduce the negative shortfall projections for the next several years, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce feels the decision to try and pass a sales tax increase is being made too fast without fully exploring alternatives that do not require residents and local businesses to pay more for the taxable items they buy in Pleasanton.

The Chamber believes that, before moving forward with the sales tax increase, the city should identify all elements of the Five-Year Citywide Strategic Plan and put an implementation schedule in place. This could take up to two years to complete.

In the meantime, the Chamber strongly encourages the city to use reserves from the 115 Pension Trust Fund and the Retiree Medical Trust Fund for the next two years to help balance the budget. These funds would pay the city's obligations for both the pension and medical trust expenses, freeing up revenue to address the shortfall.

We also ask for the city to create a public/private partnership to work

with the business community to identify the best solutions. It may end up that the sales tax measure is the best solution available. But before we take that step, the business community believes the City of Pleasanton can and should explore how to further reduce expenses and expand its ability to generate revenue through its existing economic development channels.

—James Cooper, president/CEO,
Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce

Campaigns shouldn't be trash

A year or so ago, Livermore banned campaign signs on public property. I appreciate the City Council for voting for that decision. There were some concerns about the law at the time, but I hope we can now agree it was worthwhile.

It has made a world of difference. Now we don't have election material junking up every intersection, and every dozen feet down our streets. Not only is Livermore more beautiful, but also we're less wasteful. How many of those plastic signs and metal stakes went to landfill every two years?

At the same time, we still can employ campaign signs where they are most meaningful, on our private property. If my neighbors believe in a candidate, I can see that on their front yards. I also maintain that privilege. That is the beginning of a community discussion. What we had before was simply gross, a display of wealth

injected into campaigns and dumped onto our streets.

That said, I am seeing a few signs sticking out of public property. Some citizens may have made mistakes. The law is new after all. An honest error. However, election material is technically legal on county property, surrounding some roads leading out of Livermore. There's no law against that.

It still irritates me, and I ask my fellow citizens to keep campaign signs on their own property. Anywhere else feels like littering.

—Alan Marling

Arroyo Lago development

Where to begin. The Village at Ironwood, an over-55 neighborhood, is facing a housing development behind approximately 20 of our homes. These homes, to be built, 194, are through the "builder's remedy" for Alameda County.

These homes will be eight feet from the existing wall and raised up six feet, with fill dirt, from the level of our backyards with a new retaining wall, a six-foot "good neighbor" fence on top, all two-story homes 26-30 feet. And 45 will have ADUs on very small lots, over 2,400-square-foot homes.

There are many issues with this development, which relate to all of Pleasanton. There is a sewer plant, water tanks, treated water sprayed

See **LETTERS** on Page 18

GUEST OPINION

BY TRISH MUNRO

A season of split realities

Election season started Labor Day weekend with debates and forums, endorsements, mailers and door-knocking. As a member of the Alameda County Dems, I interviewed candidates for local offices, trying to determine if those running understood the roles of school board, park districts, city councils, and county supervisor. The stakes for this election are high; election season takes a big chunk of my life.

Shortly after Election Day, the American calendar will shift to the familiar rhythm of the Thanksgiving-Christmas-New Year holidays: weeks with no school, days off of work, and enveloping holiday music, sights and smells.

The Jewish holiday season, no less consequential — although with very

different themes — began just after Labor Day weekend.

Throughout September, the call of the shofar heralded the coming holidays. Then came Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, replete with honey, apples and round challahs, all symbolizing the blessings of a sweet and whole year. The following 10 days culminated in Yom Kippur, a day of complete fasting and prayer, heavy with the themes of repairing the harms of the past year.

Still to come is the harvest festival of Sukkot, when Jews build temporary, fragile booths that symbolize both wandering through the desert toward Israel and thanks for the harvest. The Jewish holiday season ends with Simchat Torah, celebrating the never-ending cycle of Torah — a time

to dance with the Torah and community.

That's the Jewish holiday season. If I could, I would completely immerse myself in holiday observance. But, even under the best of circumstances, the Jewish calendar does not fit into the American calendar. Back-to-school nights are regularly scheduled on Rosh Hashanah eve, midterms on Yom Kippur. Observing the holidays means phone calls to parent groups or notes to teachers — every single year. That is the simple reality of being a minority.

This year is anything but the best of circumstances. This year, the worlds



of election politics and holiday observance clash, pulling me apart.

Last year, Simchat Torah fell on Oct. 7, when Hamas attacked Israel, murdering, raping, burning and mutilating over 1,200 people and taking around 250 people captive. One hundred of them — living and dead — remain in captivity. The victims and captives are mostly Israelis (Jews, Arabs and Druze), but also tourists and guest workers.

Even before the bodies had been counted, protests against Israel began. It took months for too many — women's groups, human rights groups — to acknowledge the horrors of that day. The Red Cross has yet to visit the hostages.

I watched in shock, but without surprise, as the ancient antisemitic tropes so obvious in the far-right were mirrored in implicit form on the far-left, as the weapons of the abuser — deny, accuse, reverse victim and attacker (DARVO) — were deployed against both Israel and Jews. I felt and I feel betrayed by those I have stood

with for my whole life.

There is much that can be said — has been said — about the ongoing war and destruction, the pain and suffering felt by so many innocent people across the Middle East. But that is for another time.

Right now, I am mourning for the world before Oct. 7. Right now, I am angry that too many believe that Jews have no right to a place where Jewish holidays can be observed whole. On Yom Kippur morning, the Reform movement's liturgy exhorts Jews to "choose life".

So, despite everything, I will put on my walking shoes, count my stack of door-hangers, and head out to knock doors for this consequential election. Because I choose life. One vote at a time. ■

Editor's note: Trish Munro is a former member of the Livermore City Council (2018-22). She represents AD16 on the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee. She is also a sociologist of American Judaism and the author of "Coming of Age in Jewish America".

LETTERS

Continued from Page 17

near Zone 7 water storage included in this plan. Traffic will be brought on to Valley Avenue, Stanley and Santa Rita.

Please read up on the DraftEIR at www.acgov.org/cda/planning/landuseprojects/ and attend the meeting Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. at the Amador Recreation Center, 4443 Black Ave. in Pleasanton

—Sandy Schiel

Campaign finance report

Over the years this has become the most important document I have relied on to inform where I put my mark on the ballot if I am undecided. This year is no different, except it is merely serving to cement conclusions I had already reached.

I confess to worrying that the Weekly's new nonprofit status might take away this important bit of reading, but thankfully my fears were allayed.

I urge readers to take the time to read this story and to look carefully at the sources of the donations, particularly on down-ballot candidates. Many of us are calling for change. Whether a candidate represents that change can become clear when we know where their financial support lies.

We know journalism has changed, not always for the best, and local coverage is diminishing. This thoroughly presented assessment of local campaign finance, for many undecided, perhaps first-time voters, remains the bedrock of unbiased information available to the general public.

Thank you, Embarcadero Media Foundation, for retaining the solid support of our democratic right to know that we've come to rely on. It is neither red nor blue, right nor wrong, Democrat nor Republican nor

Decline to State. It is simply key to preserving all our voting rights ... and responsibilities. As citizens, it is our "need to know" before marking the little box next to that name or the yes or no of propositions and measures.

My suffragette grandmothers, Goldie and Minnie, would be very pleased.

—Linda Kelly

Vote down Pleasanton tax increase

Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown and three members of the City Council have mismanaged Pleasanton's budget over the past few years and now they are asking the citizens to approve millions of dollars in additional taxes to correct their blunders.

Councilmember Jack Balch was the only person with the cognitive aptitude to understand and resolve the budget issue, but the other members ignored his commonsense approach. It has been reported that there were signs of a budget shortfall three years ago, but the council majority ignored the issues and did very little to trim the budget.

And now their only solution is for millions of dollars in a tax increase lasting for at least 10 years. And at the end of the 10 years, don't expect the tax to decrease, because tax increases never decrease. Vote No on PP.

—David Ott

Hispanic Heritage Month

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 to Oct. 15), I hereby submit the following excerpt from a treasured letter that Cesar Chavez (co-founder, with Dolores Huerta, United Farm Workers) wrote to me, c/o Action for Animals, on Dec. 26, 1990:

"Kindness and compassion towards all living things is a mark of a civilized society. Conversely, cruelty,

whether it is directed against human beings or against animals, is not the exclusive province of any one culture or community of people. Racism, economic deprival, dogfighting and cockfighting, bullfighting and rodeos are cut from the same fabric: violence. Only when we have become nonviolent towards all life will we have learned to live well ourselves."

Words to live by.

I had the honor/pleasure of meeting with Chavez several times before his untimely passing (1993). He told me that both he and his elderly mother were vegetarians, for ethical reasons, not health. RIP Cesar! You are sorely missed.

—Eric Mills, coordinator, Action for Animals

I'm voting No on PP

I think the opponents of Measure PP are asking really good questions about whether the city is accurately projecting property tax revenues over the next 10 years and why aren't certain reserve funds being applied against a possible deficit.

The city website has a lot of information, although it's really hard to dig through it. But it is possible to see, by their own numbers, that Pleasanton's property taxes have grown by about 5.5% each year over the past 10 years. Why are we now being told that for the next eight to 10 years, it will only grow by 3.5%?

Are we expecting less home sales even as interest rates fall? Are we expecting less new housing to be built even though several large projects are already approved and East Pleasanton will surely be built out in some way?

Interesting that this 2% difference in property tax growth is worth the same \$10 million a year that Measure PP will raise in a sales tax increase. Coincidence or not? On reserve funds, Pleasanton has \$51 million in

a fund, as of June 30, 2024, to help pay pension costs. None of this was taken into account when calculating the budget deficit. Why?

There are way too many outstanding questions for me to agree to a general tax increase. I'm voting No on Measure PP to tell our leaders to do a much better job of working with all of us.

—Jim Vlamis

Sales tax revenue increase

Please don't forget to tell your readers that on a large purchase such as a car ... You are taxed based on your registration address.

So that small PP tax increase could affect you greatly! Personally I try to buy as much as I can in Contra Costa County, rather than pay Alameda tax rate with the Al Davis tax percentage...

—Blair Pritchard

On community service

I am writing as a 17-year-old student from Amador Valley High and a Boy Scout from Pleasanton Troop 941 to express my thoughts on the importance of community service, particularly in youth programs like Scouting.

As someone who's had the opportunity to take part in numerous service projects, including my recent Eagle Scout project, I've seen firsthand how volunteering strengthens both the individual and the community.

In today's world, it's easy to overlook the impact of small acts of service, but I believe they have the potential to bring people together and foster a stronger sense of responsibility, especially among young people.

Through my involvement in Scouting, I've participated in activities like annual Christmas tree pickups, assisting at the Veterans Day

Parade, and organizing projects that directly benefit local organizations. These experiences have shown me how much we can accomplish when we work toward a common goal.

I would encourage more youth to get involved in service programs and for the community to continue supporting these efforts. The benefits are mutual, where young people gain invaluable life skills and a deeper understanding of citizenship, while the community thrives from the work done by its future leaders.

Thank you for your time and for providing a platform where local voices can be heard.

—Arjun Anand

Large money donors influencing elections

Many people are rightly concerned about large money donors trying to influence our elections and gain favor with elected officials. If you are concerned or hear candidates saying their opponents are supported by interests you don't support, please check for yourself.

In California every campaign, by law, must report all campaign contributions over \$100 by individual contributors, including their occupation and employer. In Pleasanton it is every individual contribution over \$25. This information is easily available to us all.

In Pleasanton, you can see these disclosure statements at <https://public.netfile.com/pub2/?AID=cop>

In Livermore, they can be seen at <https://public.netfile.com/pub2/?aid=liv>

For other races you can find these statements on the California Secretary of State's website at <https://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/campaign/>

Confidence in our elected officials is important so please be an informed voter. Check for yourself.

—Sharon Piekarski

Sports

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Amador girls hand Carondelet volleyball its first league loss of season

Highlights also from water polo and football; Orange and Gold Gala 2024 coming up

Amador Valley girls' volleyball did something no other team in the East Bay Athletic League had been able to do so far — beat Carondelet.

And they did it by sweeping the Cougars 25-15, 25-21, 25-21.

Among the keys for the Dons was their serve-receive performance, as they had only one error in the match. Lulu Malakhova guided the team to a .323 hitting average, she had 35 assists as well.

Kana Clevenger went on huge serving runs, leading the team with 24 serve attempts and no errors.

Kaitlyn Carlock, Hayden Moe and Maddi Huddleston did a great job defensively and allowed the Dons to control the tempo throughout the match.

Sydney Goldstein and Charlotte Kelly scored 32 points (of the total 75 points we scored) on 56% percent of their swings.

Mirudhula Muruganandham was steady all night on the right side.

Foothill girls' volleyball

The Falcons rolled to a pair of 3-0 sweeps last week to stay on top of the Valley Division.

First up was a 25-12, 25-14, 25-17 win over Monte Vista. Highlights came from Kaycie Burdick (15 digs, 13 kills, 3 aces), Sophia Burdick (9 kills, 1 block), Kait Vogel (13 service points, 5 aces, 3 kills) and Sophia Zhang (13 digs).

Next was a 25-22, 25-16, 25-13 win over California. Kaycie Burdick (18

kills, 6 digs) and Paige Nelson (18 assists, 8 kills, 2 aces) led the way. Lulu Hoenninger (8 kills, 2 blocks) and Brooke Stedman (19 assists, 5 digs) both also played well.

Amador girls' water polo

The Dons traveled south to the Arroyo Grande water polo tournament and went 1-3 in the strong event.

They opened the tournament falling 11-5 to Davis. Susan Swyers scored four goals, with Regan Braga adding the other tally.

The second game saw the Dons lose 8-6 to San Luis Obispo. Swyers had four goals and Braga two for all the scoring for the Dons.

Game three was another tight one, but Amador fell to Western 7-5. Swyers scored three times, with Braga and Olivia Ritter adding one each.

The lone win came in the final game where the Dons beat Arroyo Grande 12-7. Swyers went off with seven goals, with Kate Hopkins scoring four. Sophomore Addi Drain added one goal.

This past week, the Dons returned to EBAL play and lost 18-4 to Carondelet. Braga had three goals to pace the offense, while Swyers added one.

Football

The seasons continue to go in different directions for the two Pleasanton schools.

Amador Valley continued the turnaround with its third win in a row,

beating Campolindo 37-7 last weekend, running the Dons record to 4-3 for the season.

The Dons have a week off then begin their EBAL grind of San Ramon Valley, Monte Vista and California.

Foothill, which started the season 3-1, has now lost three games in a row after falling to Dublin 18-14. The Gaels started the season 0-4, now stand 2-5.

The Falcons are traveling to Dougherty Valley this week, which has now turned into a must-win if they want to keep their playoff aspirations alive.

Dougherty Valley has lost its last two games by a combined 81-0, falling to Piedmont and then to Livermore in its EBAL opener.



KATIE MOE

The Amador Valley girls' volleyball players celebrate after their win over Carondelet.

Orange and Gold Gala 2024

The Ballistic United and Pleasanton Rage soccer clubs are getting ready for their annual fundraising event: The Orange and Gold Gala, set for Nov. 1 at the Wine Garden at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails, followed by a welcome and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

The auction begins at 7:30 p.m.,

with music and dancing starting at 9 p.m. The event will conclude at 10 p.m.

For more information or to buy tickets, go to busc.org or pleasanton-rage.org.

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

Grab a front row seat to local high school sports

TRI-VALLEY PREPS PLAYBOOK

The Playbook gives you an in-depth look at what's going on in prep sports.

Every Tuesday, veteran sports writer Dennis Miller emails you exclusive insights into:

- Season and game previews that tell you what to look for and what's at stake
- Profiles of interesting coaches and athletes
- Post-game analysis
- Entertaining features
- Local sports trends



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Sign up now at PleasantonWeekly.com/tri-valley-preps-playbook/

Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Entertainment

HARMONY & HEALING FUNDRAISER

This annual fundraiser and benefit concert features headliners Britain's Finest, the acclaimed Beatles tribute band. Proceeds bring live professional musical visits via Zoom to hospital and hospice patients in California and throughout the world. 7 p.m., Oct. 18. Visit livermorearts.org.

TVTC PRESENTS SPOOKTACULAR BROADWAY

Enter the enchanting world of "Spooktacular Broadway" where ghosts dance to the tunes of timeless Broadway classics, weaving a bewitching tale of specters and showmanship. 8 p.m., Oct. 18. Tickets \$20-\$30. Visit firehousearts.org.

AZNAVOORIAN DUO, CELLO & PIANO

Sisters Ani and Marta Aznavoorian were first prize winners of the Illinois Bell Young Performers Competition, winners of the National Foundation for the Arts Award and were also named Presidential Scholars in the Arts. 7:30 p.m., Oct. 19. Tickets \$35-\$57. Visit livermorearts.org.

JAZZ AT INKLINGS Featuring Tim Devine on Saxophone, Geoff Carter on Piano, Jim Kassis on drums and Matt Finders on Bass. Seating is limited. 6 p.m., Oct. 19. Reserve at meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society.

BALLET FOLKLORICO MEXICANO DE CARLOS MORENO Returning to the Bankhead stage, this renowned troupe honors ancestors with traditional Mexican folk dances. 3 p.m., Oct. 20. Tickets \$25-\$50. Visit livermorearts.org.

COSMIC ODYSSEY AT THE BANKHEAD

Step into the extraordinary with Cosmic Odyssey, an outer space immersive experience on stage, followed by a 15-minute post-tour discussion led by scientists in the Founders Room. Oct. 22-24; Nov. 11-12; 14; 18-21; 25-27. Tickets \$15-\$30. Visit livermorearts.org.

AMERICAN AUTHORS American Author take the stage at The Bankhead with a tidal wave of energy and emotion, embodying their meteoric rise in the music industry since their debut album in 2014. 8 p.m., Oct. 25. Tickets \$25-\$55. Visit livermorearts.org.

FUNNY WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE

Get ready to laugh all night in this returning show at the Bankhead where these seasoned comedienne are back to deliver another round of side-splitting humor to leave you rolling in the aisles. 8 p.m., Oct. 26. Tickets \$55-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

ENCORE PLAYERS AT LIVERMORE LIBRARY

Livermore's community theater group, Encore Players, presents a Halloween-themed show titled "Halloween Tricks & Treats" designed to entertain audiences of all ages with thrilling trivia, sweet treats, spooky story readings, fun skits and ghoulish songs. 2-3 p.m., Oct. 27. Civic Center Library.

PLEASANTON COMMUNITY BAND Join this free concert at the Firehouse Arts Center. 2-3:30 p.m., Oct. 27.

Exhibitions

PIRATES OF EMERSON

Pirates of Emerson is an extremely frightening, walk-thru Haunted House celebrating 34 years of fear. Enjoy 4 haunted houses, a virtual reality ride, games, bands and a gift shop. Now through Nov. 2. Alameda County Fairgrounds. Visit piratesofemerson.com.

TASTE OUR TERROIR Livermore Valley Wine Country's Signature Food and Wine Pairing Competition spans four delectable days, Oct. 17-20. For more information visit lwine.org/events.

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. 18-20. Tickets \$35-\$45. Parking \$15. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

SUNOL HERITAGE FESTIVAL Celebrate the diverse heritage of the wilderness at this fun festival for all ages. History comes alive with games, activities, and music throughout the day. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 19. Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve. Free event with \$5 parking.

DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS Celebrate Diwali with a fireworks display, vendor booths featuring arts, crafts, jewelry and clothing from India, food booths and a cultural program featuring Bollywood dances and performances. 12-11 p.m. Oct. 19. Tickets \$15. Children under 5 free. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

LIVERMORE PRIDE FEST This free celebration returns to the Bankhead Plaza. 10 a.m., Oct. 19. Visit livermorearts.org.

TRI-VALLEY CULTURAL JEWS SUCCOS CELEBRATION Succos is a fall holiday that celebrates the harvest with the tradition of building a temporary shelter called a sukkah. Spend the morning schmoozing and decorating a sukkah and bring a potluck brunch dish to share. 10:30 a.m., Oct. 20. For an evite email culturaljews@gmail.com or call 925-399-8029.

PLEASANTON HARVEST FESTIVAL Known as a premier indoor craft show, the Harvest Festival features thousands of American handmade arts and crafts such as fine & fashion jewelry, ceramics, original art, specialty food, decor, clothing and more. Enjoy daily live entertainment. Oct. 25-27. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

DIWALI CELEBRATION Bring family and friends to celebrate Diwali, a time of new beginnings, love and light. Listen to a special storytime and live music and enjoy fun family activities including mandalas and lanterns. 1-3 p.m., Oct. 27. Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St., Pleasanton.

HULA FESTIVAL & COMPETITION Hula schools from all over the world will perform with distinguished judges flown in from Hawaii to judge this competition. Experience an assortment of cultural dance, music, food and arts & crafts. Nov. 1-3. Tickets \$16-\$26. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

Halloween

JOAN'S FARM AND PUMPKIN PATCH

This unique family experience in the Livermore countryside is family fun for everyone with a snack shack, corn maze, pumpkin bowling and more. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Now through Oct. 31, closed Mondays. 4351 Mines Rd. Visit joansfarm.com.

G&M FARMS Harvest fun for all ages at G&M Farms, now through Oct. 31. 487 E Airway Blvd., Livermore. For hours of operation including the corn maze visit gmfarms.com.

HAUNTED TOURS OF RAVENSWOOD

Step into the shadows of Ravenswood Historic Site and join LARPD for two nights of spine-tingling haunted tours. These spooky tours will run every half hour. The later it gets, the scarier the monsters. 7-9:30 p.m., Oct. 18-19. \$12R/\$13NR. 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. To register call 925-373-5700.

LIVERMORE POLICE HOST TRUNK OR TREAT

Join for this annual event which takes place in the front parking lot of the Livermore Police Department. Collect treats from decorated vehicles. 5-8 p.m., Oct. 23. 1110 South Livermore Ave.

DUBLIN POLICE HOST TRUNK OR TREAT

Dublin Police Services invites the community to participate in "Trunk or Treat" a Halloween-inspired event providing a safe alternative to door-to-door trick or treating. Dressing in Halloween costumes is highly encouraged. 5-9 p.m., Oct. 26. Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway.

HALLOWEEN BREW CRAWL Join the Halloween Brew Crawl in downtown Pleasanton, a one-of-a-kind event with over 30 participating locations that brings together beer lovers and Halloween. Along the way enjoy live music and Halloween-themed activities. 5-8 p.m., Oct. 26. Visit eventbrite.com.

KIDZ TOWN HALLOWEEN HAY DAY

Join Livermore's favorite family tradition for families with children 5th grade and under. The day includes a costume contest, music, trick or treating, fun kids' games and activities and more. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Oct. 26. Visit livermoredowntown.com.

RANGER PROGRAM: PUMPKIN CARVING CAMPFIRE

Join an LARPD Ranger for an evening filled with pumpkins. Bring pumpkin and carving tools, stencils provided. 4:30-6:30, Oct. 26. Sycamore Grove Park, Reservable Picnic Area. Visit larpd.org.

LARPD HALLOWEEN BOO BASH

This hauntingly delightful gathering is perfect for families looking to embrace the Halloween spirit in a safe and enjoyable environment. 3-6 p.m., Oct. 26. \$15 per child. Robert Livermore Community Center. To register call 925.373.5700.

Talks

FINANCIAL LESSONS FOR ADULTS "Understanding and Preparing Your Credit for Home Buying". Learn how credit affects large purchase planning,

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Connect with Techie

This stunning cat with her beautiful markings is the perfect playmate. She arrived at Valley Humane Society in April and has been waiting for someone like you to scoop her up. Techie is ready to download all her love and affection straight to your heart. Ready to sync up with Techie? She's just a click away! Visit valleyhumane.org to learn more or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process.

such as buying a home and how to build credit safely for this significant life event. This free class will be held at the Livermore Civic Center Library with no registration required. 1-2:30 p.m., Oct. 26. 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

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.

Government

PLEASANTON PLANNING COMMISSION

The Pleasanton Planning Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Oct. 23. Visit cityofpleasantonca.gov.

PLEASANTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Board meetings of the Pleasanton Unified School District are scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month and are open to the public. The next meeting is 6 p.m., Oct. 24. Visit pleasantonusd.net.

Seniors

LUNCHES AT THE SENIOR CENTER

Senior Lunches (60+) are served in the Main Hall 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call Open Heart Kitchen at 925-500-8241 for more information.

PLEASANTON RIDES

Pleasanton Rides is a door-to-door, shared-ride transportation service for Pleasanton Seniors. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 925-398-1045.

WOOD CARVING AT THE SENIOR CENTER

This drop-in program is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays. All experience levels are welcome. The club provides a knife, safety equipment, gloves and leather thumb guard. Drop-in fees apply \$3.00R/\$3.50NR.

AMERICAN STYLE MAH JONGG

This drop-in program at the Pleasanton Senior Center is 1-4 p.m., Tuesday/Friday. Drop-in Fees apply. American Style Mah

SOLE MATES WALKING GROUP

Sole Mates Walking Group is Wednesdays, 8:45-10 a.m., at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Participants must be able to walk 2.5 miles and keep a moderate pace with the group.

KNITTING AT THE PLEASANTON SENIOR CENTER

Refresh skills, pick up some new tips, share techniques, get help or just sit and knit. 9:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m., Fridays. Drop-in fees apply.

Support

VA MOBILE MEDICAL OUTREACH

The VA Palo Alto Health Care System's mobile medical outreach unit will be on-site to provide examinations, consultations and referrals to veterans enrolled in the VA Palo Alto Health Care System. No appointment is needed. Livermore Civic Center Library 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Oct. 24; Pleasanton Library, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Oct. 28.

COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAM

Open Heart Kitchen serves free meals, first come, first served, that are nutritious and freshly prepared. 12-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Vineyard Resource Center, 450 N Livermore Ave, Livermore.

OPEN HEART REFUGE

Open Heart Refuge is a 20-bed overnight shelter in Livermore for adults who are in crisis or experiencing homelessness, operating 7 days a week from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m. and includes both a hot dinner and hot breakfast. Visit openheartkitchen.org/refuge.

SPECTRUM MEALS ON WHEELS

Spectrum Meals on Wheels provides home delivered meals (60+). Call For more information call (510) 881-0305 visit spectrumcs.org/senior-services/meals-on-wheels.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Join a free support group for unpaid caregivers of an individual(s) over the age of 60. Meetings are in person every Wednesday from 2-3 p.m. in the Arts and Crafts Room at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

Make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Help needed is sewing, ironing and cutting and cheerful cotton fabric is always accepted. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Oct. 19. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. For more information e-mail suzbeck@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER AT OPEN HEART KITCHEN

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

Public Notices

BIRCHMONT MEDIA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609572
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Birchmont Media, located at 3154 Kelly Street Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 1401 21st St STE R, Sacramento, CA 95811.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
BIRCHMONT MEDIA CO. LLC
1401 21st St STE R
Sacramento, CA 95811
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 September 26 2024.
(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

PBJ MEGA LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609440
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) PBJ MEGA LLC, located at 2188 POMAR VISTA ST. SAN LEANDRO, CA 94578, ALAMEDA County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PBJ MEGA LLC
2188 POMAR VISTA ST
SAN LEANDRO, CA 94578
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/19/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 23 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

VICTORY MAZDA SAN LEANDRO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609687
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Victory Mazda San Leandro, located at 680 Marina Blvd. San Leandro, CA 94577, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 46352 Michigan Ave, Canton, MI 48188.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CAPPO MANAGEMENT LXXIV, LLC
46352 Michigan Ave.
Canton, MI 48188
State of Incorporation/Organization: Florida
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 October 02 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

UNIQUARKETING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609459
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) UNIQUARKETING, located at 2930 Domingo Ave #1510 Berkeley, CA 94705, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 47 Independence Dr. American Canyon, CA 94503.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
UNIVERSE BOUTIQUE LLC
2930 Domingo Ave #1510
Berkeley, CA 94705
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 September 23 2024.
(PLW Oct 18, 25, Nov 1 and 8, 2024)

STRETCHAEZ
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609054
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) STRETCHAEZ, located at 717 Whitney Street, San Leandro, CA 94577, Alameda

County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DOUBLEV INDUSTRIES
717 Whitney Street
San Leandro, CA 94577
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on July 22, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 03 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

ORSEA ILLUSTRATED
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609817
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) OrSea Illustrated, located at 6782 S Mariposa Lane, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
RACHEL CROWLEY
6782 S Mariposa Lane
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 October 08 2024.
(PLW Oct 18, 25, Nov 1 and 8, 2024)

GREGORY WOLFE PROPERTIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609612
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Gregory Wolfe Properties, located at 1793 San Lorenzo Ave, Berkeley, CA 94707, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GREGORY MICHAEL WOLFE
1793 San Lorenzo Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94707
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on July 11, 2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 30 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

QUOTIENT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609388
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Quotient, located at 2060 Kilkare Rd, Sunol CA 94586, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
LORI TURK-BICAKCI
2060 Kilkare Rd
Sunol, CA 94586
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 19 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

CLEAR BAY WINDOWS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609499
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Clear Bay Windows, located at 9110 Alcosta Blvd Ste H # 233, San Ramon, CA 94583, Contra Costa County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
THOMAS CLESEN
9110 Alcosta Blvd Ste H # 233
San Ramon, CA 94583
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/24/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 24 2024.
(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

CALIFORNIA REAL ESTATE SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609605
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) California Real Estate Services, located at

2411 Santa Clara Ave Suite 1 Alameda, CA 94501, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CRES ENTERPRISES
2411 Santa Clara Ave Suite 1
Alameda CA 94501
State of Incorporation/Organization: Wyoming
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 27 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

EAST BAY DRIVING SCHOOL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609353
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) East Bay Driving School, located at 6701 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 250 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 530 Labro Ct. San Ramon, CA 94582
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
EAST BAY DRIVING SCHOOL LLC
6701 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 250
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

PLEASANTON POSTAL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609437
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Pleasanton Postal, located at 2883 Hopyard Rd, 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):
PLEASANTON POSTAL LLC
2883 Hopyard rd
Pleasanton, CA 94588
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 23 2024.
(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

ISU STEADFAST
ISU STEADFAST INSURANCE AGENCY NETWORK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609158
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) ISU Steadfast, 2.) ISU Steadfast Insurance Agency Network, located at 74 W. Neal St, Suite 200, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
INSURANCE SERVICES OF SAN FRANCISCO
74 W. Neal St, Suite 200
Pleasanton, CA 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/28/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 09 2024.
(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

ISLEMONICS
VICTORIA LONDE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609354
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Islemonics, 2.) Victoria Londe, located at 3420 Andrews Dr Apt 102 Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 3020 BERNAL AVE STE 110 #3014, Pleasanton, CA 94566.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
VICTORIA HARTJOY
3020 BERNAL AVE STE 110 #3014
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/28/2024
This statement was filed with the County

Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

ARTISAN'S EYE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 608638
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Artisan's Eye, located at 18752 Crane Ave Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Joint Venture.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ALAN SCHWARZ
18752 Crane Ave
Castro Valley, CA 94546
JESSICA SCHWARZ
18752 Crane Ave
Castro Valley, CA 94546
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 15 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

21BC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609275
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) 21BC, located at 40760 ENCYCLOPEDIA CIR. Fremont, CA 94538, ALAMEDA County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
CWJ SPORTS
9701 BLUE MOUND DR
SAN RAMON, CA 94583
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/12/24
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 12 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

BAYVIEW PLACE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609421
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Bayview Place, located at 1440 40th St Emeryville, CA 94608, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 3461 Bonita Bay Blvd, Bonita Springs, FL 34134.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
EMERYVILLE SENIOR HOUSING, LLC
One Town Center Rd STE 300
Boca Raton, FL 33486
State of Incorporation/Organization: DE
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 20 2024.
(PLW Oct 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1, 2024)

TOTAL FLOORS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: #609227
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Total Floors, located at 2148 First St. Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TOTAL FLOORS INC
2148 First St.
Livermore, CA 94550
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/01/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 11 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

AMAZING SOJOURNS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 609351
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) AMAZING SOJOURNS, located at 35614 Stowe Cmn, Fremont, CA 94536, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
KIMMELNET CORP
35614 Stowe Cmn
FREMONT, CA 94536
State of Incorporation/Organization:

California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on June 1, 2019
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on September 18 2024.
(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV093969
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: FUCHANG WANG AND YUHUA WANG filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
XIYUE WANG to SISSELA WANG
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: 02/21/25, 9:30AM, 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: 10/04/2024
THOMAS I. NIXON
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 18, 25, Nov 1 and 8, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV094910
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Jiafu Lam Zhan and Nerissa Monica Ignacio Zhan filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
LUCA IGNACIO ZHAN to LUCA ZHIHONG IGNACIO ZHAN
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: 02/28/2025, 9:30am, Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington Street, Oakland, California 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: 10/10/2024
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Oct 18, 25, Nov 1 and 8, 2024)

Continued on next page

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.

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

Case No.: 24CV091711

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Michael Castillo Tolentino filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MICHAEL CASTILLO TOLENTINO to SIMON TOLENTINO

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: 2/14/2025, 9:30 AM, WILEY W. MANUEL COURTHOUSE of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 661 WASHINGTON, 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: SEPT. 17, 2024

THOMAS L. NIXON

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

Case No.: 24CV090817

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Natalie Nicole Ogransky filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

NATALIE NICOLE OGRANSKY to NATASHA ZALIANIS OGRANSKY

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: 1/31/2025, 9:30AM, Dept.:103 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: 9/10/2024

THOMAS J. NIXON

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Sep 27, Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

Case No.: 24CV091209

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Michele Helen Luther filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MICHELE HELEN LUTHER to MICHELE HELEN RAMIREZ

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: 1/31/2025, 9:30am,

Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda County 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: 09/12/24

Not Specified

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 24CV092699

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Alexander Sato Andrews filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ALEXANDER SATO ANDREWS to ALEXANDER SATO

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: 02/14/2025, 9:30am, 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: 09/24/2024

Thomas I. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Case No.: 24CV092767

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: WILLIAM WARREN LYONS filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

WILLIAM WARREN LYONS to WILLIAM WARREN DI NAPOLI

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: February 21, 2025, 9:30am, 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: September 25, 2024

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

BOBBY WOODS, AKA BOBBY LINER WOODS, AKA BOBBY LONER WOODS

Case No.: 24PR093765

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BOBBY WOODS, AKA BOBBY LINER WOODS, AKA BOBBY LONER WOODS.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Robert L. Woods in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: Robert L. Woods be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on November 04 2024 at 9:45 AM in Dept. 201 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704.

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

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

Attorney for Petitioner:

Quinton J. Miller, Esquire

Law Offices of Quinton J. Miller

9381 E. Stockton Blvd., Ste. 200

Elk Grove, CA 95624

916-714-1717

(PLW Oct 11, 18 and 25, 2024)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

MICHAEL NATHAN MADFES

Case No.: 24PR091018

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MICHAEL NATHAN MADFES.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: DAVID BRUCE MADFES in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda.

The Petition for Probate requests that: DAVID BRUCE MADFES be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on October 14 2024 at 9:45 AM in Probate Department of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA, 94704.

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

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

Petitioner in Pro Per:

David Bruce Madfes

475 Douglass St

San Francisco, CA 94114

415-602-4458

(PLW Oct 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

Real Estate

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton

(July 22-Aug. 2)

Total sales reported: 24

Lowest sale reported: \$665,000

Highest sale reported: \$3,700,000

Average sales reported: \$1,860,187

Livermore

(July 22-Aug. 2)

Total sales reported: 34

Lowest sale reported: \$406,500

Highest sale reported: \$3,090,500

Average sales reported: \$1,391,029

Dublin

(July 22-Aug. 2)

Total sales reported: 27

Lowest sale reported: \$640,000

Highest sale reported: \$3,350,000

Average sales reported: \$1,410,147

San Ramon

(Sept. 9-20)

Total sales reported: 24

Lowest sale reported: \$430,000

Highest sale reported: \$2,250,000

Average sales reported: \$1,315,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during July 22 to Aug. 2 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Sept. 9-20 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

7635 Canyon Meadow Circle #A M. Hsu to N. & J. Fogle for \$705,000

77 Castlewood Drive Rawson Family Trust to R. & A. Rais for \$2,103,500

5743 Dakin Court Burstein Living Trust to S. & A. Ali for \$3,600,000

5361 Elmridge Court Vollgraf Trust to Y. & Y. Chen for \$1,700,000

6275 Inglewood Drive K. & Y. Kim to S. & K. Ko for \$1,260,000

9512 Macdonald Court S. Chen to F. & Z. Guan for \$3,688,000

3777 Newton Way S. Mohapatra to Zhang & Yang Family Trust for \$3,700,000

5489 San Antonio Street Robinson Trust to U. & D. Attar for \$1,785,000

4095 Suffolk Way C. Lanway to N. & P. Mohapatra for \$1,520,000

3628 Zwissig Court Stout Family Trust to E. & H. Chang for \$1,460,000

1979 Brooktree Way H. Koliavas to J. & S. Yantrapragada for \$1,545,000

7765 Canyon Meadow Circle #G E. Shin to D. & Y. Tang for \$710,000

1593 Chatham Place Black Family Trust to Entwisle Family Trust for \$1,805,000

3534 Churchill Court M. Albright to A. & A. Gupta for \$1,830,000

2186 Countryside Court Toll West Coast LLC to Aepala Family Trust for \$3,483,000

7367 Elmwood Circle Enns Family Trust to S. & S. Kim for \$1,549,000

4328 Fairlands Drive Barath Living Trust to K. & A. Sun for \$1,130,000

710 Foxbrough Place Cotton Trust to Boddu Family Trust for \$2,600,000

10 Greens Lane Rose Trust to K. & W. Harbourne for \$1,686,000

4662 Helpert Court Henriksen Trust to S. & G. Khetan for \$1,460,000

3723 Rose Rock Circle Papageorge Living Trust to S. Vanapalli for \$1,570,000

4492 Sandalwood Drive K. Amadora to M. & A. Lu for \$1,735,000

3326 Smoketree Commons Drive #D Henry Living Trust to D. Fitzer for \$665,000

1160 Tiffany Lane J. Mumford to C. Flores for \$1,355,000

Livermore

1053 Aberdeen Avenue D. & A. Harris to M. Chen for \$1,022,000

768 Avalon Way Threex Investments Inc to M. & N. Lupan for \$1,365,000

3168 Chateau Way D. Herman to Moore Trust for \$1,070,000

712 Chippewa Way Z. & R. Totari to A. & N. Kamath for \$1,130,000

541 Covington Way Kqi LLC to S. & A. Kompally for \$1,275,000

958 Delaware Way T. & A. Beaudine to J. & D. Kerrick for \$925,000

6790 Edgewater Lane K. & N. Bhatt to J. & A. Singh for \$1,510,000

115 Edythe Street B. Dolinshek to S. & N. Yan for \$1,150,000

261 Fennel Way A. Chhibber to Kathpalia Living Trust for \$990,000

4491 Guilford Place E. & D. Orghish to M. & M. Borja for \$2,023,000

658 South L Street M. & D. Schweickert to Larson Living Trust for \$1,900,000

2351 Lennox Court V. & M. Ochoa to R. & N. Singh for \$3,090,500

1464 Peachtree Common Tooze Family Trust to H. & P. Shah for \$865,000

2606 Pickfair Lane L. Duggan to B. & A. Falls for \$1,250,000

522 Rhea Way Weiny Family Trust to V. & M. Ochoa for \$2,050,000

2077 Rivers Bend Circle Leuthauser Family Trust to Saadat 2020 Trust for \$2,430,000

865 Tranquility Circle #4 J. & D. Kerrick to E. & C. Oreste for \$975,000

986 Via Del Paz Finn Trust to K. & K. Curtis for \$1,300,000

1055 Via Granada Kirby Living Trust to Y. & T. Pershing for \$1,150,000

275 Wall Street G. & N. Cossey to S. & D. Johnson for \$1,350,000

618 Carlsbad Court D. & D. Callen to C. & A. Lee for \$1,460,000

1473 Chateau Common Ap Cease Trust to Sullivan Living Trust for \$818,000

1832 Corte Cava Harrison Family Trust to E. & H. Chen for \$975,000

271 Covellite Lane A. Asokan to N. Bhatt for \$1,264,000

113 Ganesha Common Kumar Trust to R. & A. Winter for \$861,000

724 South J Street C. & J. Buczeke to A. & A. Willey for \$1,610,000

1636 Juniper Street K. & M. Ward to Nair Family Trust for \$1,480,000

4667 Laurie Common #101 Parker Family Trust to H. Payne for \$406,500

135 Lee Avenue S. & P. Sardinia to Mantor Family Trust for \$1,050,000

2803 Rutherford Court B. Prescott to R. & A. Singh for \$2,400,000

6410 Scenic Avenue A. & S. Siddiqui to Borah Family Trust for \$1,690,000

5834 Singing Hills Avenue J. Oneal to Bhooshan & Sushma Trust for \$960,000

5252 Theresa Way Gunn Living Trust to A. & S. Das for \$1,200,000

Source: California REsource



ARMARIO HOMES

TRI-VALLEY LUXURY REALTY

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EXCEPTIONAL NEW PRICE
NOW OFFERED AT \$2,749,000
4698 2ND STREET, PLEASANTON

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4PM



3134 DEVEREUX CT, PLEASANTON
OFFERED AT \$3,299,000

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4PM



3929 FAIRLANDS DR PLEASANTON
OFFERED AT \$1,895,000

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4PM



1654 HOLLYHOCK ST, LIVERMORE
OFFERED AT \$899,000

CALL FOR SHOWING



1734 TERRA COURT, RUBY HILL
OFFERED AT \$5,995,000

CALL FOR SHOWING



3204 POMACE CT, PLEASANTON
OFFERED AT \$1,949,000

Considering a Move?

Allow us to assist you next.
So far in 2024, Armario Homes Has:

- ✓ COMPLETED \$85 MILLION IN SALES
- ✓ NEGOTIATED 41 SALES FOR CLIENTS
- ✓ PRODUCED TOP-DOLLAR SALES FOR HOME SELLERS!



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LISTED REFERRAL



1772 Zenato Place
5 Bedrooms | 5 Bathrooms | 3,843 Sq. Ft.

SOLD REFERRAL



45 Golf Road
3 Bedrooms | 3.5 Bathrooms | 2,439 Sq. Ft.

SOLD REFERRAL
Represented Buyers



937 South I Street
3 Bedrooms | 2 Bathrooms | 1,716 Sq. Ft.

SOLD REFERRAL



2785 Decker Lane
5 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,897 Sq. Ft.

SOLD REFERRAL
Represented Buyers



44 Bobbie Court
4 Bedrooms | 3 Bathrooms | 2,753 Sq. Ft.

YOUR BUSINESS IS TRULY APPRECIATED!



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