

Pleasanton Weekly

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Growing Goodness Village

Nonprofit looks toward new community center, more homes in Livermore

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1st - Feature Story

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3rd - Health Reporting

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HERE'S WHAT SOME OF THE JUDGES OF THE
2023 CALIFORNIA JOURNALISM AWARDS ARE SAYING ABOUT OUR WORK —

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

— First Place,
Coverage of Youth and
Education

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

— Second Place, In-Depth Reporting

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

— First Place, Feature Story



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WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

Discover Diablo in 2025

Getting outside to enjoy nature, engage with the environment and exercise with purpose is among the personal priorities I have for 2025.

Save Mount Diablo and its partners are providing plenty of opportunities for me and many others to act on that new year's resolution, with a range of events — familiar and brand-new alike — as part of its annual Discover Diablo hiking series.

"It is the goal of the Discover Diablo program to build connections between people, Save Mount Diablo and the land, helping our communities develop a strong sense of place and a deepened appreciation for our collective backyard," Ted Clement, executive director of the local nonprofit, said Monday.

"Most importantly, we want to cultivate a love of the land in participants, as that is what it will take to ensure the precious Diablo natural areas are taken care of for generations to come," Clement added in the press release unveiling the 2025 schedule.

And what a lineup it is.

Discover Diablo has 38 excursions on the calendar for the year, consisting of guided hikes, themed walks and other outdoor activities. They're free, open to the public (although RSVP is required and many sites have parking or entry fees) and options are available to trailblazers of all skill levels, according to the nonprofit.

Popular themes are returning this year, such as the tarentula trek in September. Or should I say treks, plural, because in 2025 Save Mount Diablo has added a second spider stroll to the bill — the walk for families will be 5-8 p.m. Sept. 5 while the walk for adults is set for Sept. 19: "Find out if you have arachnophobia or fall in love with spiders as you are introduced to the gentle giants of Mount Diablo."

New offerings in the 2025 series include "SuperNove! Stargazing with Mount Diablo Astronomical Society" on the night of Sept. 27 and "Queerness in Nature: An LGBTQIA+ Hike with Branching Out Adventures" on the afternoon of Oct. 18 — both at Mount Diablo State Park.

Save Mount Diablo is also debuting a landscape and wildlife photography excursion at Pinnacles National Park, a strenuous hike of five miles for most of the day on Jan. 25. Elevations will reach about 2,000 feet.

The series really aims to encourage people to explore conserved

parklands on Mount Diablo and the greater Diablo Range.

That's not only properties preserved by Save Mount Diablo; the program also features the land of the National Park Service, California State Parks, East Bay Regional Park District, Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation, Contra Costa Water District and Stanislaus County Parks.

Some of the "nooks and crannies" are rarely open to the public, the nonprofit noted.

Now in its ninth year, the program is also about inspiring residents young and old, "to spark a passion for the Diablo Range and deepen people's connections to the land and nature," Save Mount Diablo reps said. "Discover Diablo hikes are guided by local experts steeped in the natural history and lore of the region, who both educate and entertain while emphasizing the breathtaking beauty that the Diablo Range has to offer."

The fun gets underway on Jan. 25, with two events: the aforementioned photography hike at Pinnacles as well as Dr. Mary Bowerman's 117th Birthday Memorial Hike from 10 a.m. to noon at Mount Diablo State Park (just one mile and 50 feet of elevation).

February will see two offerings, each on EBRPD land: "Green Hills, Ponds and Newts" at Briones Regional Park on Feb. 16 and a hike of Bob Walker Ridge (the "morning side" of Mount Diablo) on Feb. 23.

Spring beckons with the March installments, including an early look at wildflowers at Mount Diablo State Park on March 14 and "Spring Blooms and Birds" at EBRPD's Chaparral Spring on March 30. There's also a beginner rock-climbing event at Pinnacles on March 29.

As the weather clears (hopefully), Discover Diablo also opens up.

A snapshot of the 30ish events between April and October include "Sountering and Soloing" on April 11, "Castles and Peregrine Falcons" on Earth Day, "Spring Forest Immersion Walk" on May 10, "Reptile Ramble" on June 1, "Beat the Heat and Hike the Suburban Interface in Walnut Creek Open Space" on July 12, "Plein Air Painting Hike" on Aug. 23 and "Borges Ranch Fall Hike" on Oct. 4.

The series winds down with six events in November and December, wrapping up with "Twin Ponds Loop in Winter" on Dec. 14. For the full schedule and more information, go to savemountdiablo.org. ■

About the Cover

Goodness Village, one of the 2024-25 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund beneficiaries, is looking to expand in the near future with a new community center and additional tiny homes. Photo courtesy Goodness Village. Cover design by Doug Young.

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I am grateful for your continued support, and looking forward to a wonderful 2025. Wishing you health, happiness, and all the best in the New Year!



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What are some of your goals for the new year?



Julie Pascualy

OB/GYN physician assistant

I want to do the work that I feel really needs to be done. And also to trust in the flow and process of life.



Leslie Wolfe

Physical therapist/senior aide

My goals for the new year are to run a 10K and to read at least 15 books. I will also donate time and money to organizations that may become vulnerable due to (potential) new federal legislation.



Gurlal Singh

Data analytics manager

My goal for this new year is to be more entrepreneurial, while putting my family first. I'll make sure to spend quality time with my wife and kids, every single day, and not let work take over.



David Pascualy

Solar energy storage/renewable energy

A major goal is to develop trust in our country, and to hope that we get out of the current situation in four years better than we went into it.



Melinda Alvarez

Executive legal assistant

One goal is to spend as much time with my children as possible. I love them so much. I also want to spend more time with my parents for the same reason, and especially because they are aging. I'd like to do a great job at work, see friends regularly and do some traveling. Everything else is icing on the cake.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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DIGEST

Credit union rebrand

Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union is now known as Sunward, with the financial institution that serves customers in New Mexico and Livermore unveiling its rebranded name and logo in the fall.

The shift to Sunward, which did not include any ownership change, aims to represent the credit union's innovative, inclusive and forward-thinking mindset — “the best of our past alongside our bright future,” according to President and CEO Steph Sherrodd.

“Our commitment to our 150,000 members, especially those from Sandia National Laboratories, our long-standing partner, is deeper than ever,” Sherrodd said. “As we strengthen these relationships with new offerings such as new member rewards programs, we are also investing heavily in our branch locations, digital tools, community partnerships, and products to become more inclusive and improve members' lives through financial wellness.”

Newest judges

The Alameda County Superior Court is welcoming four new judges in January, with Mark P. Fickes, Jessica Hawk, Jamilah A. Jefferson and Terry Wiley all taking the oath of office at various times this month.

Hawk and Jefferson were appointed to their positions by Gov. Gavin Newsom to fill retirement vacancies while Fickes and Wiley ascended after the primary election for six-year terms beginning in early 2025.

Fickes, a former court commissioner, defeated Michael Johnson in March for the seat being yielded by Judge Evelio Grillo. Wiley, a former county prosecutor who gained prominence in losing the district attorney election to Pamela Price in 2022, was the only candidate to file for the bench position of retiring Judge Don C. Clay.

The appointment of Jefferson, supervising deputy city attorney for Oakland since 2019, was announced by the governor in November to succeed retiring Judge Stephen D. Kaus. Hawk, a senior deputy state public defender who lives in Alameda County, was picked for the bench in July for the seat of retiring Judge Paul Herbert.

TK expansion

Pleasanton Unified School District officials have expanded transitional kindergarten eligibility for the 2025-26 school year to students who turn 4 years old on or before Sept. 1.

An informational meeting is set for Jan. 22 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Fairlands Elementary School for parents and guardians. ■

New City Council presses pause on budget engagement plans

Mayor Balch's proposal of creating ad hoc committee instead of full body leads to heated debate

By Christian Trujano

Tensions were high during the last Pleasanton City Council meeting where the newly elected council majority tabled staff's Budget Engagement Plan until their next meeting — a move that two council members did not agree with.

There were several points of contention during the Dec. 17 meeting about how the city should survey its residents and what kind of committees should take the time to dive deeper into the budget before staff ultimately bring a final two-year budget for approval in June.

However, one thing City Manager Gerry Beaudin made abundantly clear was that the city was already running thin on time and the way the meeting played out did not seem to help that fact.

“Every week that we wait compresses the time that we have to build the budget at the backend,” Beaudin said. “The more we slow our roll on this, the harder it is to build that budget.”

Staff originally came to the council on Dec. 17 with the goal of approving their “Budget Engagement Plan”, which aims to outline how the city will gather input from its

residents regarding its upcoming financial challenges before developing its two-year budget for fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27.

The city has been warning its residents about how it's facing a long-term general fund structural deficit of about \$13 million every year for the next 10 years — that number could be as high as \$22 million, if a recession hits, deputy city manager Alexa Jeffress said.

She also recapped how Measure PP failed in the polls this past election, which means the city will not have additional revenues coming in from a half-cent sales tax measure.

“Without that new revenue, we are facing tough decisions as costs continue to rise and revenues have not kept up,” Jeffress said.

Now, as staff begin the process of developing its next two-year budget, they want to create a plan that not only keeps the public involved in the process, but also allows them to provide input.

Staff want to develop the two-year budget based on council and community goals and priorities, which is why the conversation Dec. 17 centered on how the city will engage

See **BUDGET** on Page 8



COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

Rendering shows what the two single-story retail or commercial buildings would look like at the Barone's property site. Fourteen new houses are also part of the redevelopment proposal.

Barone's redevelopment

Public hearing next week on plans for housing, retail, tree removals

By Christian Trujano

The Pleasanton City Council will have until its next regular meeting to vote on the plans to turn the Barone's Restaurant in downtown into more than a dozen single-family homes, retail buildings and a plaza after a request for the item to be continued.

Councilmember Julie Testa said during the agenda amendments portion of the Dec. 17 meeting that she wanted to continue the item until the next session because “Given the hour, we're not likely to get to it anyways.”

Testa's comment references the fact that the regular portion

of the meeting started almost three hours behind schedule because it was the same meeting where Mayor Jack Balch, along with new council members Matt Gaidos and Craig Eicher, were all sworn in to office following a recognition ceremony for former mayor Karla Brown and councilmember Valerie Arkin.

Testa also said she wanted to continue the Barone's redevelopment plan vote because she had “asked staff for some information that wasn't yet available.”

The next meeting where the council will vote on the project's environmental review documentation for mixed-use rezoning, development plan and vesting tentative map is set for Jan. 9.

Barone's Restaurant first shuttered its doors in December 2022 due to various reasons, including struggles following the coronavirus pandemic. It reopened in August 2023 as a pared down concept with appetizers, finger foods, cocktails and entertainment three nights a week, as well as private event rentals, before shutting down for good this past October.

The redevelopment plans for the former restaurant include retaining and expanding the existing two-story, single-family home and demolishing all other structures in order to create a mixed-use development.

The new development across

See **BARONE'S** on Page 6

Castlewood homeowners sue county

HOA alleges supes violated law in approving \$1.4M loan

By Tim Hunt

Contending that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors failed to follow procedures mandated in Proposition 218, the Castlewood Homeowners Association filed suit against the county on Dec. 3.

Association president Rick Hammel said their attorneys advised filing the legal action to retain that option in negotiating with county officials. The association is fighting a \$1.4 million loan from the general fund that the supervisors approved and obligated the association to repay. That amounts to about \$6,000 per homeowner for water services. Unless the supervisors reverse the loan by a 4/5th vote or the association prevails in court, the obligation will remain with the association.

The supervisors voted unanimously Oct. 3 to approve the action despite no Proposition 218 procedures. It had 60 days to follow that process after the vote and Hammel said they've heard nothing from the county.

The process includes notifying homeowners of the proposed loan and, if 55% object, it cannot move forward. Hammel said he hates litigation, but sees no other option at this time given the county's performance and attitude.

See **CASTLEWOOD** on Page 9

Schedule change next year for Livermore high schools

Pilot program aims to provide students more class time, academic support

By JUDE STRZEMP

After just one year since transitioning from trimesters to semesters, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District high school students are in for another adjustment in the 2025-26 school year.

Livermore high schools will abide by a modified block schedule with six-periods, an optional A and/or B period via three anchor days and two alternating block days.

Considered to be a pilot program, the new schedule allots overall more time per class every week, increased frequency of class meetings and about triple the time for academic support, compared to the current A/B day semester schedule.

Implementing the new schedule will cost more than the current one, but the price will be manageable, LVJUSD superintendent Torie Gibson said.

The district decided to switch-up the high school schedules at a regular Board of Education meeting on Dec. 17, where trustees unanimously approved the transition via a non-binding agreement with the Livermore Education Association

— a union representing teachers, counselors, nurses, psychologists, teachers on special assignment and speech pathologists within the school district.

Intended to best serve students and ensure “reasonable working conditions for teachers”, the schedule may be modified or extended by mutual agreement, according to the memorandum of understanding.

“We had a new schedule that was relatively untenable and we had a lot of issues, so we’re trying to repair something,” Trustee Craig Bueno said at the meeting.

In the upcoming school year, the three anchor days per week feature periods lasting about one hour each. Meanwhile, alternating block days feature periods of about one and a half hours in length.

Also included in the new schedule are two access periods per week, one lasting 30 minutes and the other lasting about an hour — this gives students about triple the amount of time for academic support every week compared to the current schedule.

Teachers will also be impacted by the new schedule, as full-time

will consist of 10 sections per year instead of 12 sections.

The new schedule marks a transition away from the current set-up where high school students have eight periods split into alternating days A and B. Periods each last about an hour and a half on most days of the week, except Wednesday where periods are each about an hour long. Also on Wednesdays, students currently have an academic support period lasting 25 minutes.

The new schedule proposal emerged out of a collaboration by committee representatives from Granada High, Livermore High, Del Valle High, Vineyard High School, LEA leadership, a representative from Tri-Valley ROP, district leadership, site leadership and board of trustee representatives, according to the MOU.

The group settled on the proposed schedule after two in-person meetings and a couple weeks of emailing in between those gatherings, Gibson said.

In the end, 84.4% of all LEA employees who were eligible to vote approved of the proposed schedule, according to the board agenda.

“Looking at this compared to other district schedules, I think ours is better,” LHS athletic director James Petersdorf said at the meeting. “We took the best of what we saw out there and we kind of made it our own and we turned out something that’s great.”

Also during the meeting, Jerry Yalon — a member of the Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee, which monitors bond finances of the district — supported the schedule but expressed concern over the exclusion of parents from its creation and the unknown cost of its implementation.

“It’s not just important what you decide, but how you do it,” Yalon said. “Please don’t vote to approve a project that you don’t know the cost for. That is bad government.”

There will be savings under the current schedule, but other districts are moving away from it because it is still considered expensive, Gibson said.

As for implementing the new schedule, the exact cost is unknown at this time, Gibson said. But it will be greater than the current schedule because of the A and B periods.

“We are pretty confident that we will be within the means of where we need to be budgetarily,” Gibson said. “But we can’t work through that process until we have an approval of the MOU.”

Parental involvement in creating the schedule wasn’t possible because it is a negotiable item with the teachers union and bargaining unit, Gibson explained.

“When we can include parents and students, of course that’s always going to be our goal. Unfortunately this just isn’t one of those items we could do that with,” she said.

Moving forward, the district is open to feedback regarding the schedule, Gibson said.

As for next steps, LVJUSD will work with the high schools to determine the classes scheduled for the A and B period, according to Gibson.

“A huge thank you to the LEA leadership who helped us put together a really, truly diverse group of people in that room. It did not always go with rainbows and unicorns, throughout the two days,” Gibson said. “But I think at the end of the day we landed in a really good place.” ■

Party City closing all stores nationwide

Pleasanton location joins others in ‘going out of business’ phase

By JEREMY WALSH

All Party City stores in the U.S. are shuttering for good soon, with the Pleasanton location joining its peers nationwide in winding down operations.

Corporate officials with Party City Holdco Inc. confirmed the plan in a press release on Dec. 21, one day after the news started to become public in media reports. “Going out of business” sales will be underway at its approximately 700 stores across the country, but a final closure date has not been announced yet for the Party City in the Metro 580 shopping center on Rosewood Drive — the retailer’s only location in the Tri-Valley.

“The decision was made following exhaustive efforts by the Company to find a path forward

that would allow continued operations in an immensely challenging environment driven by inflationary pressures on costs and consumer spending, among other factors,” the Party City press release stated. “As with many other retailers, macro-economic headwinds more recently proved too severe for the Company to overcome.”

Billed as a “one-stop-shop for all things celebration” during its nearly 40 years in business, the party supply retailer headquartered in New Jersey attempted to restructure in 2023 following tough times in recent years — a move that company officials said eliminated almost \$1 billion in debt, but ultimately didn’t prove to be enough to survive.

The company and certain of its subsidiaries filed for Chapter 11

bankruptcy protection in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas to facilitate “an orderly wind down in the most efficient manner and to maximize value for the benefit of the Company’s stakeholders,” officials said.

“The Company has filed customary motions with the Court seeking authority to commence going out of business sales and uphold its commitments to employees during the wind down,” officials said, noting that more than 95% of its 12,000 employees would be retained to help with final operations — although national news outlets reported corporate employees were let go.

“The Company thanks its customers for their business and appreciates the support it has received from its valued partners,” officials added.



JEREMY WALSH

The scene outside the Party City in Pleasant Hill on the morning of Dec. 21, when news was spreading of the retailer’s plan to close all stores nationwide.

“During the going out of business sales, shoppers at Party City stores will be able to take advantage of

incredible deals and deep discounts on amazing merchandise while supplies last.” ■

BARONE’S

Continued from Page 5

the 2.3-acre project site at 475 and 493 St. John Street would consist of 14 new detached two-and-a-half-story, single-family homes; two single-story retail or commercial buildings with a plaza and a 13-stall parking lot. The two commercial buildings would total approximately 3,125 square feet in area combined and the plaza would be about 1,568 square feet.

“The proposed development is well-designed, would preserve an existing home on-site, provide additional commercial square footage with a public plaza and parking lot and would be compatible with other residential and commercial uses in the Downtown,” according to the Dec. 17 staff report.

But according to a Change.org petition that was created on Oct. 24 — the day after the Planning Commission approved the project — some residents don’t like how

the new project will be removing 34 heritage trees from the property. The overall plan consists of removing 39 trees in total out of the 51 that are on the property due to “direct or significant encroachment by the proposed project.”

The petition, which as of Monday has 874 signatures, is asking the city to reconsider the removal of all 34 heritage trees in order to “not only help Pleasanton keep our environment healthier and safer, but continue to be an

enjoyable place to live.”

“The native tree species slated for removal include Valley Oak, Coast Live Oak, Walnut, and 12 Coast Redwood trees among others,” according to the petition. “While the developer describes the proposed plan to include ‘lush landscaping’, the reality looks desolate and includes a proposed landscape plan with fencing, empty planter boxes, box-sized trees, shrubs, and ground cover.”

However, the council report does

not call them heritage trees specifically — in the report it states that the plan is to remove 34 “heritage-size trees.”

Staff also has noted that “amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance are underway, which would classify many of these trees as ‘protected trees’ — however, the term heritage tree is used in this report, since the tree evaluation and arborist report were completed pursuant to the existing ordinance and its definitions.” ■

Martinez appointed to Dublin school board

Contentious vote gives DUSD full dais for next two years — unless petition for special election is filed

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees selected Carolina Martinez to fill the Area 3 vacancy via a split vote rooted in a procedural disagreement.

Martinez's provisional appointment came in the wake of presumptive new trustee Jeff Clark resigning before he was ever seated, leading to a lengthy debate in November about the process of filling the position — with the board majority opting to solicit applications from Area 3 residents rather than calling for a special election.

The strife carried over into the most recent regular meeting on Dec. 17 where trustees Dan Cherrier and Gabi Blackman argued that policy had been violated. Nevertheless, trustees Kristin Speck, Kristian Reyes and outgoing William Kuo — who remained at the dais representing Area 3 until a successor was seated — voted to appoint Martinez that night.

Martinez is set to serve two years, meaning the position will be up for election in November 2026. However, if Area 3 voters wish to contest the appointment, they may petition for a special election with the Alameda County superintendent of schools within 30 days, according to DUSD superintendent Chris Funk. That election would likely be held in March.

During the selection process, Martinez said, "I grew up in foster care, not having a huge support system in education. I hope to give back to that system now to ensure that teachers are seen, ensure that students of all specters of life have an opportunity to be a learner, to be able to be pushed and challenged to know what they'd like to do in life."

Martinez was one of four applicants invited to participate in public interviews during the Dec. 17 meeting. Her competitors included user experience researcher Daniel Hor and project manager Cleyton Ribeiro. The fourth potential trustee, Robert Sanford, did not appear at the meeting and dropped out due to unknown reasons.

Parent to a DUSD student, Martinez currently serves as vice president of the Parents Faculty Club at James Dougherty Elementary School. She also works as an IT quality assurance manager at the University of San Francisco.

"Dublin is growing fast, and I see this as a unique opportunity to ensure our schools grow with it, becoming places where all kids can excel both academically and socially," Martinez wrote in her application.



New DUSD Trustee Carolina Martinez.

Hor has an 8-year-old daughter at Murray Elementary and has volunteered for school activities as well as the parent faculty club at Murray.

Lastly, Ribeiro's daughter is about to enter the school district and he is poised to begin his involvement in the district.

Following interview questions to the candidates, trustees narrowed the selection to Martinez and Hor.

For Speck, Martinez and Hor stood out as the top applicants because they gave the most specific responses. Though none of the three elicited red flags, she said.

Newly elected Reyes agreed with Speck but suggested Martinez as the best fitting applicant.

"Given the diversity of what I know our board is today and going forward, I think Ms. Martinez's perspective that she can give, from other sides with regards to the arts, the creativity and her background make her a stronger candidate," Reyes said.

The conversation also circled around the appointment procedure.

Cherrier argued there was no vacancy to fill, since Kuo was at the dais. Cherrier decided to recuse himself from the interviews.

"This is a bogus process; we don't have a vacancy as long as Mr. Kuo is sitting here," Cherrier said.

Blackman added that Kuo should not deliberate or vote on the appointment — something she said would give him too much power.

There were also procedural issues with making an appointment since the board had acted in advance of an actual vacancy during its November meeting, Blackman argued.

During that November meeting the board decided they would fill the Area 3 position by a provisional appointment. Those in favor said the move would ensure the district's complete representation in forthcoming budget cut decisions.

Alternatively, the district could have filled the role through a special election. But trustees expressed

concern over its cost to the district. Additionally, trustees argued that a special election may flop due to no one being interested in filling the Area 3 position.

"It made little sense to hold a special election immediately following a general election where only one person put their name forward," Funk wrote in an email to the DUSD community.

In the wake of Kuo's announcement that he would not seek reelection in the fall, Clark was the only candidate to come forward for Area 3, earning the position uncontested — before telling the district in October that he would not be taking the seat for personal reasons.

In response to comments from Cherrier and Blackman at the December meeting, Funk assured the trustees, "Based on legal counsel, I believe the board has the right to complete the process tonight and make a provisional appointment."

A vacancy has occurred because no one took the oath of office, Funk explained. Since Kuo has not resigned, he can assume the full responsibility of a trustee until a replacement is determined.

Noting a lack of strong opinions on the candidates, Speck requested all the trustees share their opinions of the candidates.

"I thought a lot of the answers were like lecturing to the board about what we already do, what we already know," Blackman added, "To be a trustee you have to bring something more than just a list of what's on our website."

Cherrier restated his stance against any appointment and predicted a special election.

"This is nothing personal — I think you did a fine job up here," Cherrier told Martinez. "But in my opinion, this board has taken an illegal action and I'm going to be leaving the proceedings because I think anything this board does right now is against the law and I will also be discussing with Area 3 people to have you removed from office."

In the end, Martinez was appointed, supported by Speck, Reyes and Kuo. Those against the appointment were Cherrier and Blackman.

No petition for a special election had been filed with the county as of Christmas week, with the deadline set for mid-January.

"We are grateful that all five trustee areas are now represented and I look forward to collaboratively working together to solve our financial challenges and to continue our efforts to make DUSD an organization that provides a world class education," Funk wrote in his email after Martinez's selection. ■

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Students lead LVJUSD toward climate literacy

District to create climate education task force next school year

By JUDE STRZEMP

Climate change education is now a priority for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, thanks to a student-led initiative to improve climate literacy.

As part of the district's commitment, it has agreed to assess climate literacy across all grade levels, charter a task force during the 2024-25 school year to strengthen climate-related education and support collaboration with local agencies that work on sustainability and climate science.

To solidify the district's dedication, its Board of Education unanimously approved a resolution

called "Responding to Climate Change through Education" at a regular meeting on Oct. 15.

"Passing this resolution gives me absolute faith that the future of Livermore and beyond will be eternally stable in the hands of our new generation, the young adults and students who cared enough to push for this," curriculum advocate Claire Gresham said in a statement.

Behind the resolution are recent graduates of Granada High School, Gresham and Alexander Pepper, as well as current Livermore High School seniors Thaarak Sriram and Shrish Premkrishna.

In the resolution, the youth leaders voiced concern about the

impact of climate change.

"Prioritization of K-12 climate change education will provide LVJUSD the opportunity to create an educational environment that successfully prepares Livermore students for the climate change challenges ahead," they wrote in the resolution.

They suggest all educators incorporate climate-relevant topics into their classes and lesson plans.

To help with implementation of the climate curriculum, the district is set to create a climate literacy task force composed of students from both high schools as well as



Livermore High School seniors and co-authors of the climate education resolution Thaarak Sriram (left) and Shrish Premkrishna (right) present the item to the LVJUSD Board of Education.

See **CLIMATE** on Page 9

BUDGET

Continued from Page 5

with its residents.

Staff proposed hosting a town hall where they can talk to residents about the city's financial challenges and any new updates on the budget development process, which is one of the things Beaudin needs to happen because it is the best way to get raw input from the community.

The city also proposed using online tools to help get more data, surveying residents and hosting pop-up events at the farmers market for staff to engage with residents.

Councilmember Julie Testa was completely opposed to the idea of staff attempting to explain complex budget information to people rushing through the market and she also did not think the last community survey regarding Measure PP was a huge success, which is why she was concerned about the city putting out another survey.

Jeffress said staff have learned thanks to feedback from the past Measure PP survey and that they will plan to ask specific questions, but others like councilmembers Craig Eicher and Matt Gaidos still had their concerns.

"If we do a survey, it would be nice to have an open-ended survey to see what the community really has to say instead of steering them down where we think they might go," Eicher said.

But even greater point of contention was surrounding one part of the engagement plan, which was to create a first-ever Budget Advisory Committee (BAC), made up of 11 representatives — one from each council district, representatives from local unions and representatives from other city stakeholders.

Jeffress said the BAC would provide a diverse and transparent forum for budget recommendations to the city manager and would help provide the city input on community priorities and strategies for



CHUCK DECKERT

New Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch attempts to set the tone during his first council meeting in the center chair.

program delivery in order to ensure a long-term balanced budget.

The idea was to approve the engagement plan and then right after, approve the establishment of the BAC along with the appointment of all 11 members, and then have the BAC kick off its first meeting on Jan. 15 in order to stay on schedule — ultimately, the BAC would collaborate with Beaudin to formulate budget recommendations for City Council approval in June.

However, instead of approving the staff recommendation to set up a Budget Advisory Committee and agree on the various community engagement plans, Gaidos and Eicher supported new Mayor Jack Balch's substitute motion to have staff bring back alternate proposals during the next meeting.

Balch initially continued the BAC establishment saying he wanted to get more information and later on in the meeting, he proposed a council-driven ad hoc committee to replace the BAC.

"My purpose of continuing the Budget Advisory Committee is not (out of) malice," Balch said. "My intention is so that this council has a heartbeat of a moment to strongly

think about, and discuss ... how it wants to put together its budget to serve the community and address the challenges we have in the most efficient, transparent and forthright way."

Balch said the ad hoc committee could give advice on how the budget is formed, it could look at city's fiscal policies in detail and it could look at how the 10-year budget forecast has been vetted so that they have a scope of the city's challenges and problems in order to look for other viable solutions.

"My intent is that there are policy decisions that we need to make," Balch said. "I believe that one of the reasons (Measure) PP did not prevail was a lack of trust ... in the forecast."

"I do propose that we consider a council-directed ad hoc committee to be formed immediately, that it meets regularly and the No. 1 task it must do ... is to build faith and confidence, through transparency and legitimacy, of the forecast that we will use to direct how our city budget is compiled," he added.

Balch volunteered himself and Gaidos to join the ad hoc committee and said he wants it to meet as

much as possible, in a transparent manner.

"How do we form our city budget under constrained resources, that is our primary question being asked by us tonight," Balch said. "A citizens group might have a very significant place in it, but at three meetings it is difficult to believe that 11 members, meeting three times, will be able to give me confidence that they have the detailed knowledge of the budget."

But Testa did not agree with the idea of an ad hoc in the slightest, saying the BAC should have been approved that night.

"We want community engagement, but this is a topic that I think is better served by that committee," Testa said

She also didn't agree with Balch's idea that the recent election served as almost a survey in and of itself, showing how the community felt.

"I disagree that the election ... replaces community engagement," Testa said. "I would want a process where I know that information is accurate and biased (sic) and I don't believe the election provided that."

She finally said she was uncomfortable with how Balch and Gaidos spoke outside of the council room beforehand on proposing an ad hoc committee — Gaidos confirmed this during the meeting — and asked the two if they would have felt comfortable if the ad hoc was made up of her and Nibert.

Nibert also said he thought the community expressed the desire for such an advisory committee during the past election cycle and was confused why the council majority was supporting the ad hoc committee instead.

"It's a method for the council to try to do more precise work on the budget, gain knowledge and then, obviously, all council members would need to be updated ... informed," Balch said about the ad hoc proposal. "It is not intended to (not inform) certain council members in

any way, shape or form."

Gaidos also added that he suggested to Balch that other council members should join the ad hoc but that as a person who supported Measure PP, he saw himself as a consensus builder who wanted to be as informed about these future budget decisions as possible.

"If we're ultimately going to be the body that is being asked to vote on a budget that could potentially change the way the city services its residents, I want as much information going into that process as absolutely possible," Gaidos said.

Nibert also criticized the formation of an ad hoc committee and said the only fair motion the council could have made that night was to approve the original staff recommendation.

"It just seems to me that delay is denial," Nibert said. "(The) Budget Advisory Committee, to me, is meant to do all the things that have been proposed in the ad hoc committee."

Eicher, however, also agreed with Balch and Gaidos in that he thought the nimbleness of the ad hoc being able to meet more often would benefit the community more than the BAC, which is why he also sided with Balch's substitute motion.

In the end, staff will bring back different alternatives for its engagement plan, including Balch's alternate plan of forming the ad hoc committee and hosting a town hall along with other council workshops. Balch also said another alternative would be having the entire council more involved in the ad hoc committee and more vigorous council workshops.

While Beaudin said staff will be able to bring the recommendations back on Jan. 9, in doing so it will change staff's original timeline. He said even if the council scratches the ad hoc committee and decides to go with the BAC, the advisory committee will have one less meeting day either way. ■

Council greenlights land acquisition near Garaventa Wetlands

41.3-acre property being purchased for \$1.6M intended for open space preservation

By JUDE STRZEMP

Livermore City Council recently authorized the purchase of a 41.3-acre property in north Livermore for \$1.6 million for conservation and possible recreational uses.

The Quint property, located next to the Garaventa Wetlands Preserve, features unique habitat, water and wetland features, according to city officials. These attributes make the land a prime opportunity to support the wetlands hydrologically and recreationally.

The council's decision was made at a regular meeting on Dec. 9, where Livermore Mayor John Marchand also made the city's intention clear — the property is not slated for housing development.

"We need to create a ring of open space around this community," Marchand said. "This is something that our community has wanted."

Councilmember Ben Barrientos was also vocal about using the land to maintain the city's green belt.

Later Marchand added, the media has sown doubt regarding the city's motives behind the land purchase. He denounced suspicions that the city would build houses on the Quint property.

"In the 19 years that I've been up here, we have acquired open space land and none of it has ever been converted to anything other than open space," he said.

Funding to purchase the Quint property will come from the Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund (\$500,000) and the

Dougherty Valley Settlement Agreement Account (\$1.13 million).

As part of the agreement to draw from the Dougherty Valley settlement funds, city staff were obligated to meet with Citizens for Balanced Growth, a nonprofit based in the Tri-Valley.

However CBG declined to meet with staff in December of 2023 and in January, February and March of 2024 to discuss property transactions, according to the funding agreement. The city also

sent requests in September and October of 2024 to meet with CBG.

"Based on limited communication and unwillingness to set a meeting date from CBG ... staff has concluded that CBG does not support the expenditure of Dougherty Valley settlement funds for the Quint Property acquisition," the agreement states.

CBG did not comment during the meeting Monday and did not respond to a request for comment from the Weekly as of press time. ■

CASTLEWOOD

Continued from Page 5

The county operates a service area providing water, sewer and road repairs to the historic neighborhood located west of Foothill Road at Castlewood Drive. The county club dates to 1924 and was originally the summer residence of Phoebe Apperson Hearst. She and her guests would ride the train around the south end of the San Francisco Bay and through Niles Canyon to a station near where the pedestrian Verona Bridge stands today.

She owned the Spring Valley Water Co. that was sold to the city and county of San Francisco. Those wells provide water to the homeowners and the country club to this day.

Association members are already smarting from a huge increase in their water rates assessed by the county. Rates went up 172% year-over-year so homeowners are paying \$338 for 330 units per year. City of Pleasanton rates, even after hefty increases in 2024, are \$180 while Dublin San Ramon Services District clients pay \$169 and

Fremont area users pay \$168.

Association members have been digging into the finances and trying to figure out how the shortfall came about and said the county has been less than forthcoming with financial numbers. The discrepancy between what the association believes was a \$600,000 balance in its account and the county's demand for \$1.4 million is nearly \$2 million. There's about \$500,000 unaccounted for in their numbers.

Hammel and Mike Mitchell, one of the members digging into the finances, believe the issues stem from the protracted and mismanaged project to replace the original redwood storage tanks above the country club with new stainless steel tanks.

The legal action is one challenge of several the board and members are facing. The county public works department leadership has made no secret of its desire for Castlewood to go away. Two supervisors, David Haubert and Nate Miley, have represented the area and are familiar with the issues (Haubert's district was extended to cover Castlewood after Miley's district included it in the prior district

lines). Even if they are on the same page, it takes one more vote to win at the supervisors.

Association leaders would like the county to fully fund the area from property tax revenues in addition to the assessments. That could allow setting up of a self-governing agency with a directly elected governing board. Supervisors would ultimately still have the final say.

They could also pursue an annexation or association with the city of Pleasanton. Given its financial challenges, Pleasanton officials are unlikely to welcome Castlewood without revenue flowing into its coffers.

When association members met in September, the board told them that it would be a multi-year process and whatever decision would have to be approved by the membership.

They both believe the new operating contractor, Bracewell Engineering, is effective, but strapped by county directives. The association is paying \$8,000 monthly to rent generators, but they are not connected to the water system so must be started manually after an employee is summoned to do it.

as the Livermore Youth Climate Summit, where high schoolers learned about how to combat climate change, according to the Quest website.

Under the guidance of Quest leadership, the youth surveyed peers and teachers throughout the city's high schools to better understand their perspectives on climate literacy. Given over 600 responses, they found overwhelming support for enhanced climate education.

"Greater understanding of the sources of climate change, of actions needed to reduce greenhouse gas in the atmosphere, and of adaptation approaches that are just and equitable are of paramount importance for LVJUSD students," youth leaders reported in the resolution.

After the initial community feedback, the youth leaders met with the LVJUSD superintendent and board members for input on writing a resolution to boost climate education in the district, according to a recent district announcement.

In addition to backing by the school board, the resolution also garnered support from the Livermore Education Association — a union representing teachers, counselors, nurses, psychologists, teachers on special assignment and speech pathologists within the district, according to the announcement.

The resolution is also credited to students at GHS and LHS as well as members of the Tri-Valley Youth Climate Action Project. ■

By the county's instruction, the association cannot alert Bracewell — it takes a homeowner calling on their own. There should be both an alarm and an automated starter on the generators so the water flow through the pumps is maintained, they said. They said during the fires that threatened houses and the club, one tank was dry during the installation and the other went dry leaving no water for the firefighters. That's a matter of great concern.

They also pointed out that contrary to some opinions, about

one-third of the residents have lived there for 20 or more years and are living on fixed incomes. Membership in the country club, which used to include most of the households, has declined to about half. Membership is not required to live in the neighborhood.

The Weekly did not receive a response from the county counsel's office after being referred by public works. ■

Editor's note: Journalist Tim Hunt is a freelancer for the Pleasanton Weekly. Hunt and his family live in the Castlewood area.

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council Workshop

Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

- Budget development workshop for FY 2025/26 and FY 2026/27

City Council Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Continued items from 12/17/2024:

- Approve the FY 2025/26 and FY 2026/27 budget engagement plan
- Approve the establishment of a Budget Advisory Committee and appoint members
- A) Adopt a resolution approving an addendum to the Downtown Specific Plan Final Environmental Impact Report; introduce an ordinance to approve: (1) Planned Unit Development rezoning (P21-1173) of two parcels totaling approximately 2.3 acres in area from C-C (Central-Commercial) to PUD-MU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed-Use) District; and (2) A PUD-MU development plan (PUD-146) to: (a) retain the two-story single-family home and construct a two-story addition to the north side of the home; (b) demolish the detached accessory dwelling unit, Barone's restaurant, and all other structures and site modifications; and (c) construct 14 detached single-family homes and two commercial buildings with a public plaza and parking lot, new private street, and related site improvements; and
- B) Adopt a resolution to approve a Vesting Tentative Tract Map (Tract 8631) to subdivide the 2.3 acres into 15 single-family lots, one commercial lot, and three private common space parcels located at 475 and 493 St. John Street

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CLIMATE

Continued from Page 8

teachers from various disciplines and senior leadership — officials confirmed that this group is set to form in spring of 2025.

As for the district's relationship with outside entities, the city is set to work with students to give them the chance to apply their education in real world ways, according to Tricia Pontau, sustainability manager for the city of Livermore.

To write the resolution, youth leaders drew from their experience in the new Tri-Valley Youth Climate Action Program by Quest Science Center — a Livermore-based organization which works to inspire lifelong engagement in science and technology — as well

Livermore seats new City Council

Outgoing members honored with proclamations; Branning appointed as vice mayor

By CIERRA BAILEY

Newly elected and reelected members of the Livermore City Council officially have taken their seats on the dais after being sworn in to their positions.

Mayor John Marchand, who ran for reelection unopposed in the Nov. 5 general election, reclaimed his seat at the helm while new council members, District 3 representative Steven Dunbar and Kristie Wang of District 4, joined the council for the first time at the Dec. 9 meeting.

While the two fresh faces are new to city government, they are no strangers to public service in Livermore — with Wang previously serving on the Board of Education and Dunbar as a city planning commissioner.

According to the official results certified by the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' Office, Dunbar made out with 41.42% of the vote (4,255 votes), beating out his two opponents Jeff Kaskey, who ended up with 30.86% (3,170 votes), and David Farley who landed at 27.72% (2,847 votes).

Wang won her seat by a large margin, garnering 61.43% of the vote (6,671 votes) while her opponent Tom Soules trailed with 38.57% (4,189 votes).

The welcoming of the new council also marked the departure of former



CITY OF LIVERMORE

Livermore's new City Council following the Nov. 5 general election. From left: Ben Barrientos, Vice Mayor Evan Branning, Mayor John Marchand, Kristie Wang and Steven Dunbar.

council members Brittni Kiick and Bob Carling. Kiick chose not to seek reelection after serving one term on the council and Carling passed the torch after reaching his term limit.

"This is kind of a sad time for me because I've really enjoyed working with this council — I mean, I came back to work with this council just because they are doing great things here," Marchand said before presenting proclamations to Carling and Kiick. "But it's also kind of fun because we get to reflect upon a lot of the things that we were able to accomplish during

that time," he added.

Both Carling and Kiick shared brief remarks reflecting on their respective tenures on City Council and expressing gratitude to their colleagues, the community and their own families.

After completing their last orders of business as council members, Carling and Kiick stepped down from the dais as Dunbar and Wang stepped up to take the oath of office along with Marchand.

Rejoining the meeting as an audience member, Kiick spoke during public comment to offer words of

encouragement to the new council members.

"You are going to have so much fun and you will have lots of ideas. And when they're a little bit out there, staff will ask you very kind, calm, pointed questions to bring you back down to reality and will still allow you to push but it turns out they are the experts and they do know what they're talking about," she said. "You will get yelled at from people standing right here — kind of a lot — but there are more people who are thankful and grateful for your work than there are people

who have nothing better to do on a Monday night than yell at you," she added.

She continued sharing insights from her time on the council before concluding her remarks by saying, "I am just honored that you two — and John, but you were already here — will continue a legacy of compassionate, data-informed and community-focused leadership here in Livermore."

Following the new council's installation, Marchand appointed Evan Branning the city's new vice mayor. ■

Tri-Valley PACE Center grand opening set for early 2025

FS Design tapped for facility preparing to ramp up operations beyond 'low power mode'

By JEANITA LYMAN

The Tri-Valley is set to be home to a new senior health care facility in the coming months, with the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Center in Livermore announcing last month its selection for interior design and an early 2025 grand opening.

The news comes following a groundbreaking ceremony for the facility in 2023 at 2441 Constitution Drive in Livermore, which is currently serving as an Alternative Care Setting (ACS).

Center manager Markus Lewis told Livermore Vine that the facility has been "operating in low power mode" since March, currently serving approximately 26 clients daily.

"We are basically providing all of the main core of services, which are a day center for socialization, and we have a senior rehab gym where we have been overseeing exercise plans put into place by physical and occupational therapists," Lewis said.

San Diego-based FS Design Group announced on Dec. 2 that it would "leverage its expertise" in interior design and planning for

the new PACE Center, including images that offer a glimpse into the new facility ahead of its anticipated opening next year.

"FS Design Group is privileged to partner with CEI to create PACE centers that serve the needs of the area's growing senior population," FS Design Group principal Amy Tobia said. "CEI's PACE program provides comfortable, safe and beautiful places for seniors to stay active and receive the care they need while living independently at home."

The Center for Elders' Independence (CEI) is the non-profit organization aimed at providing services that enable seniors to stay in their homes in Contra Costa and Alameda counties since the early 1980s. In 1992, they adopted the PACE model of care, proceeding to open their first PACE Center in San Pablo in 1994. They currently operate five full PACE centers throughout the East Bay, with the Tri-Valley location set to be their sixth upon its full opening.

FS Design officials said they are seeking to make the new facility a "beautiful experience" for participants, with the goal of making



SKYLINE CONSTRUCTION

Senior participants of the Center for Elders' Independence Livermore Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) will enjoy a dedicated space for fun and games, designed by FS Design Group.

them "feel like they've entered a retreat when they come through the door."

"The work we do is almost like an extension of home," CEI President and CEO Maria Zamora said in the

Dec. 2 announcement. "We don't want it to feel like a clinic even though we partner with medical providers who have clinic space within the PACE center."

Upon its full opening, the center

is set to include a full clinic including triage nursing services and doctors and nurse practitioners on staff. It is set to serve approximately 120 to 130 clients daily, according to Lewis. ■

Dublin garage receives national sustainability award

Facility next to BART features 507 parking spaces, space on ground floor for retail

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Dublin Transit Center Parking Garage was awarded the 2024 winner for National Parking Association - Sustainability Project of the Year.

This accolade represents one of the parking industries' highest commendations for leadership, innovation and best practices, according to an announcement by NPA.

"The vision for this station is anchoring multi-modal connections that will get cars off our congested roadways, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase mobility for Tri-Valley residents and workers," said representatives from the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, one of the project funders.

The five-level facility, adjacent to the Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station, has 507 parking spaces and an 18,000 square foot ground-level for future conversion to retail spaces, according to a press release celebrating completion of the project earlier this year from constructor McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.



ALAMEDA COUNTY

Since opening in June, the Dublin Transit Center Parking Garage has been recognized as the 2024 winner for National Parking Association -- Sustainability Project of the Year.

It includes sustainability-minded features like 32 bicycle lockers, six EV charging stations and dedicated parking for 11 electric autonomous shuttles. The structure also boasts natural ventilation, energy-efficient equipment and is ready for future solar panel installations.

"Winning the NPA Innovative Sustainability Project of the Year award is an honor and it reflects

our commitment to reducing the carbon footprint by using environmentally responsible construction practices," city staff said.

Construction of the facility by the General Services Agency of Alameda County and McCarthy Building Companies began in fall 2022. Funding for the project was provided by the LAVTA and the Alameda County Transportation Commission. ■

Tolls on Bay Area bridges keep on rising

After \$1 bump in 2025, additional increases will be phased in over five years starting in 2026

By THOMAS HUGHES / BCN

The regional body that sets toll rates for the Bay Area's seven state-owned bridges voted last month to raise tolls by another \$1.25 to \$3 for two-axle vehicles, starting in 2026, introducing a "tiered" tolling rate.

Changes were also made to car-pool lanes known as high occupancy lanes, with a third person per vehicle now required to receive a discount on the Dumbarton and San Mateo-Hayward bridges.

The toll increases will affect the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and the Antioch, Benicia-Martinez, Carquinez, Dumbarton, Richmond-San Rafael and San Mateo-Hayward bridges. The car-pool lane changes will affect all but the Bay Bridge.

The toll increase, which will be phased in over five years starting in 2026, is on top of a \$1 increase that will take effect in January, which will bring the current toll to \$8 for drivers with one or two occupants, and \$4 with three or more.

The \$1 increase in January marks the third installment of a \$3 increase that was approved by voters as part of Regional Measure 3 in 2018. The toll was first increased in 2019, then again in 2022.

The vote Dec. 18 by the Bay Area Toll Authority, which is controlled by the regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission, marks a new increase that will leave drivers with tiered rates starting in 2027.

All rates will increase by 50 cents in 2026, except for carpoolers, who receive half-off and will see an increase of 25 cents. After that, the rates diverge.

Drivers with FasTrak will see steady increases of 50 cents per

year until the toll is set at \$10.50 in January 2030. High occupancy rates for vehicles with three or more people will still be 50% of those rates, increasing 25 cents each year until they are set at \$5.25 starting in 2030.

The Toll Authority voted to standardize the three-occupant requirement to receive the high occupancy discount on all bridges. The Dumbarton and San Mateo-Hayward bridges currently allow the discount with two occupants.

But vehicles with two occupants will be able to access the high occupancy lanes on the approach to the bridges on all but the Bay Bridge starting in 2026.

The tiers are created by a bump starting in 2027. Drivers with registered license plate accounts will see an additional increase of 25 cents, which will then continue increasing by 50 cents until the rate is \$10.75 in 2030.

Drivers who rely on an electronic invoice will see an additional \$1 on their bill in 2027, which will ultimately set the rate at \$11.50 for such drivers. The state went to an all-electronic toll system in 2021 after initially removing toll booth operators because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vehicles with more than two axles will see higher increases, with three-axle vehicles seeing tolls rise from \$18 starting in January to \$25.50 in 2030, increasing by \$1.50 each year.

The number ranges for vehicles with additional axles with rates in 2025 between \$22 and \$37, which will increase to a range between \$33 and \$55.50.

The money raised from the toll increases will go towards bridge maintenance and repairs, according to the MTC. ■

DSRSD swears in returning board members

Goel, Govindarao and Halket set to remain in office through at least 2028

By JEANITA LYMAN

Three members of the Dublin San Ramon Services District Board of Directors are now set to hold their seats through the end of 2028 after being sworn in during a ceremony ahead of the board's final regular meeting of the year.

Division 1 Director Dinesh Govindarao, Division 3 Director Rich Halket and Division 5 Director Arun Goel took the oath of office during the ceremony on Dec. 17, marking the first full terms for Govindarao and Goel and the continuation of a lengthy tenure on the board for Halket, who is now in his 20th year on the board.

"I look forward to working with the Board to achieve our shared goals of protecting public health and the environment while providing reliable water, wastewater and recycled water services to our customers," DSRSD General Manager Jan Lee said in an announcement from the agency on Dec. 19.

Govindarao, a former San Ramon mayoral candidate, has served on the DSRSD board since 2023 when he was appointed to the



DSRSD

Three members of the DSRSD Board of Directors are set to remain in office for an additional four years after no eligible challengers emerged for any of the three seats in the Nov. 5 general election.

vacancy left by Marisol Rubio upon her election to the San Ramon City Council. Goel, a former Dublin councilmember, was first appointed to DSRSD in 2021 and then elected to a special two-year term in 2022.

Both incumbents were unchallenged and did not appear on the ballot for the Nov. 5 election.

While Halket did face a challenge from Javier Lopez Rivero on

the ballot, the latter was deemed ineligible for the seat due to failure to meet a residential eligibility requirement.

After the sitting directors were sworn in for their additional terms, the board selected Goel as president for the coming year and Halket as vice president. It's the first time Goel has served as president, and the fifth time Halket has served as vice president. ■

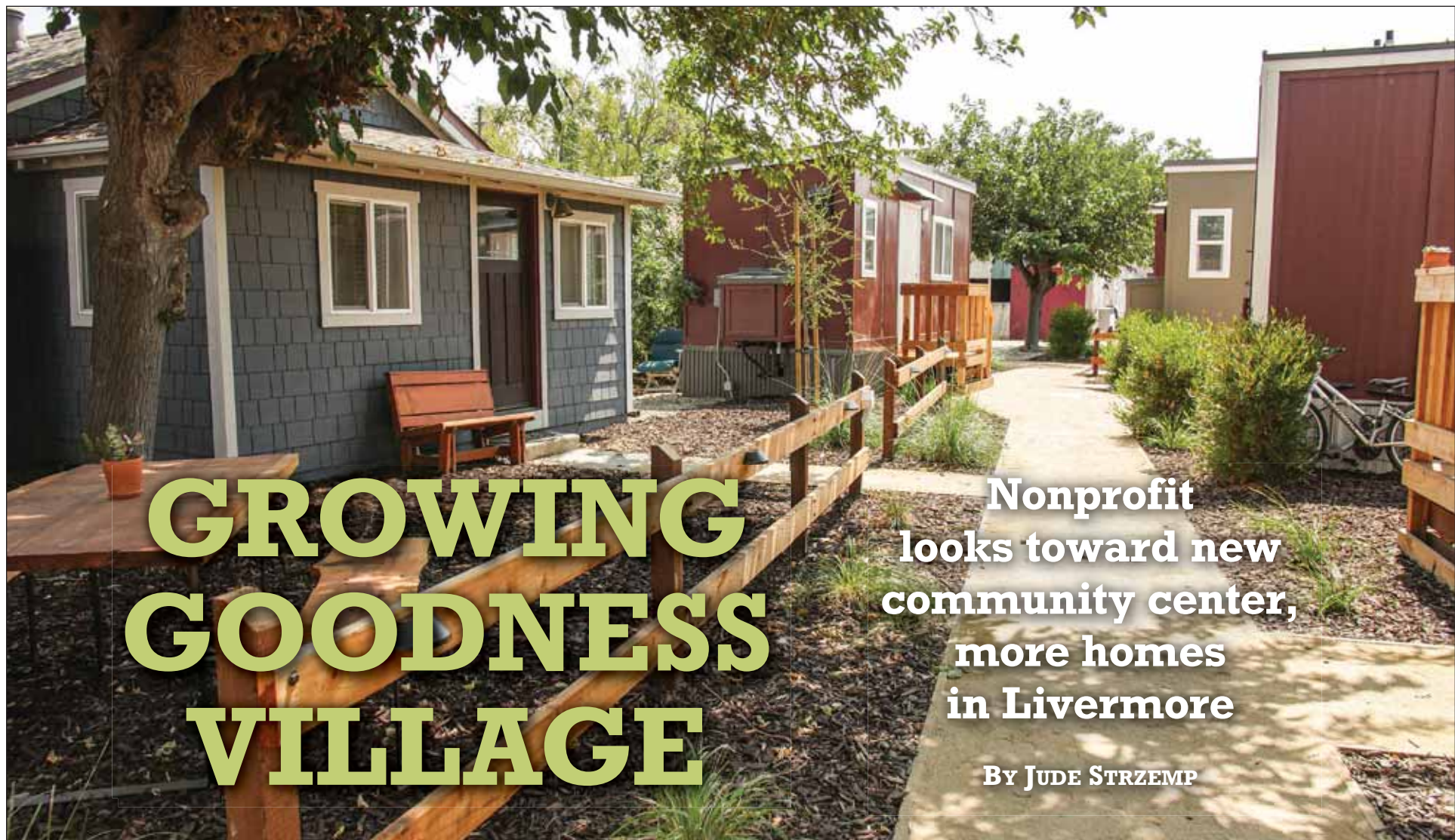
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GROWING GOODNESS VILLAGE

Nonprofit looks toward new community center, more homes in Livermore

By JUDE STRZEMP

FILE PHOTO BY CIERRA BAILEY

Goodness Village in Livermore is a 501(c)3 public charity that provides “tiny homes” for unhoused Tri-Valley residents.

A tiny home neighborhood for previously unhoused residents of the Tri-Valley appears on the brink of a much-needed and long-awaited expansion.

Located on the Crosswinds Church land in Livermore, Goodness Village — an independent nonprofit organization — intends to build a new community center followed by at least 20 additional tiny homes to meet the needs of current residents and reduce a wait-list of about 100 people.

The center is set to host a dining room to fit the whole village, connected offices, a laundry room, fitness center, a classroom, a large communal kitchen and store. It is anticipated for review by the Livermore Planning Commission in the first quarter of 2025, according to city staff.

Though the community center signifies much more than just an expanded communal space, Goodness Village Executive Director Kim Curtis explained.

“Many people who aren’t in this field don’t understand the urgency to us having a community center where we can build that community piece that we know is missing for the folks who are transitioning out of homelessness and trying to navigate their wellness and recovery,” Curtis said.

Within months of opening in 2021, the 28 single-occupancy homes at Goodness Village were filled to capacity — each home features a restroom, shower and kitchenette.

Now in late 2024, Goodness Village expects to fill one unit to return to capacity before Christmas-time, Curtis said.

In addition to affordable housing, the village provides 24/7 mental health services as well as resources for residents’ safety, physical health and workforce training.

These services as well as the laundry, communal kitchen and a small store are all located in a small two-bedroom house, operating as the current community space.

The residents make due, but the house comes with limitations, according to Curtis.

Its single washer and dryer are in near-constant use, as it is shared by all the residents. The lounge area does not comfortably fit every resident. The close proximity of the health and wellness center to the communal kitchen doesn’t offer the best privacy. The separated office spaces make collaboration difficult.

Also during community dinners in the current gathering house, “They’re all trying to eat off little plates on the couch or some of them

will just bring back plates and go back to their units and eat there,” Goodness Village vocational manager Terri Kendro said.

Based on the original plans for the village, that house was not even supposed to be the community center, Curtis explained. But the site of the proposed center — under the flight path of the Livermore Municipal Airport — has caused its development to be postponed.

True to its name, a new center would help Goodness Village build community, which Curtis said is often missing for folks transitioning out of homelessness.

The space would encourage people to stay onsite and away from negative coping mechanisms they may have used in the past, she said.

“There’s been people in the past four years that would have benefited from having this available to them and without it, I’ve had to ask them to leave the village,” Curtis said. “I know that when I’m sending people back to homelessness, I am also sending them back to potentially dying on the streets alone. And that’s a heartbreaking reality for myself and for the staff, and we try to do everything we can to help people stay here.”

Financing for the community center is already in the bag, since outgoing State Sen. Steve Glazer helped secure \$5 million from the Department of Social Services in 2022 for construction of the community center and additional homes.



COURTESY GOODNESS VILLAGE

Livermore nonprofit One Nation Dream Makers brings a grocery truck twice a month from local stores for Goodness Village residents to shop through.



JACKIE AYO / GOODNESS VILLAGE

The nonprofit’s annual Trick-or-Treat Parade through the village. Open to children in the community and Crosswinds Church children’s ministry, candy is donated to our neighbors to allow them the opportunity to pass out candy from their tiny homes.



COURTESY GOODNESS VILLAGE

Goodness Village is situated on Crosswinds Church land located at 1660 Freisman Road, next to the Tri-Valley Golf Center in Livermore.

The exact cost of the community center is unknown at this time, but presumed to cost under \$5 million.

Though moving ahead with construction of the center requires it undergo review by the Livermore Planning Commission and receive approval of its conditional use permit modification, city staff said.

If the city approves the proposal, the center could be constructed in six months, according to Curtis.

Once built, Goodness Village staff would relocate its offices from a trailer to the center. The trailer could then be used as the wellness center, offering greater privacy than the one located off the communal kitchen.

Additionally, Goodness Village could pursue its intention of adding at least 20 more homes to the community — although more

The residents get settled, open up and take better care of themselves, Kendro said.

Resident Pat Ericksen said she feels very content living in the neighborhood whereas she didn't feel that way before moving in.

"It's nice that you can just walk out of your place and be able to say hello to someone, be able to talk to someone — that's really important," Ericksen said.

Goodness Village is one of the 10 non-profit recipients of the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund, an annual campaign hosted by Embarcadero Media Foundation, East Bay Division. Every dollar raised will be split evenly among the beneficiaries.



Terri Kendro

'Many people who aren't in this field don't understand the urgency to us having a community center where we can build that community piece that we know is missing for the folks who are transitioning out of homelessness and trying to navigate their wellness and recovery.'

Kim Curtis, Goodness Village Executive Director

fundraising would be required to build the homes, Curtis said. Project costs include bridge construction to cross a creek on the property and new systems for electricity and water.

As a nonprofit, it's hard to keep the funds rolling in, Kendro said. But she can see the positive impact of Goodness Village.

Donations to Goodness Village will go toward sustaining mental health support, services like case management and vocational training as well as overall housing stability, according to Curtis.

Contributions to the 2024-25 Holiday Fund can be made at PleasantonWeekly.com/holiday_fund until mid-January. ■



PHOTOS BY JUDE STRZEMP

A two-bedroom house at Goodness Village currently serves as an undersized gathering center. The current gathering space is not large enough for all residents to commune.



Holiday Fund



Each year, the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund raises money to support programs and services that care for local families and children in our community. The Holiday Fund partners with the Embarcadero Media Foundation, which handles all finances, so every dollar of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to local nonprofits with no administrative expenses.

2024-25 Holiday Fund Donors

As of December 30th, 132 donors have contributed \$68,636 to the Holiday Fund.



Please consider donating online, which enables your gift to be processed immediately. The secure website is:
PleasantonWeekly.com/holiday_fund

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The Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund is sponsored by the Embarcadero Media Foundation. It is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, allowing your donation to be tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Pleasanton Weekly unless the boxes below are checked.

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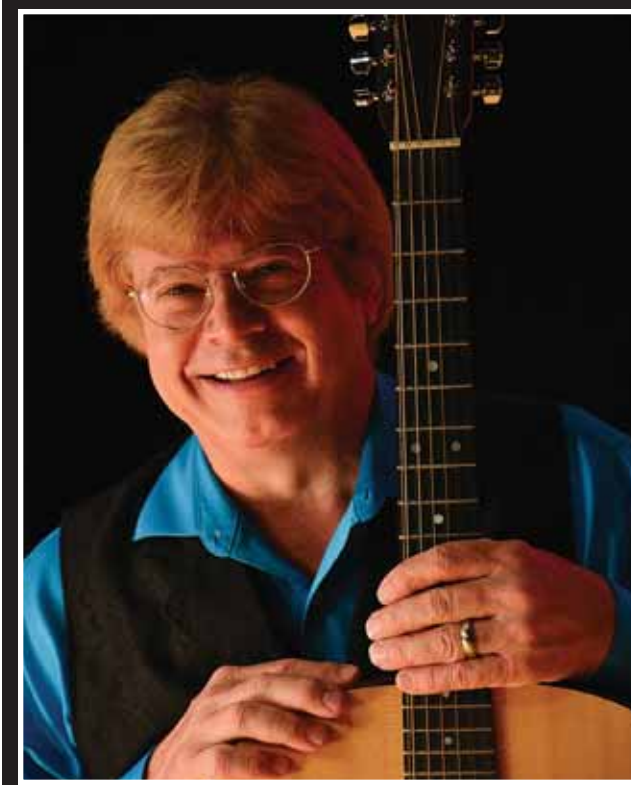
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COURTESY LVA

Take Me Home: The Music of John Denver featuring Jim Curry will be on the Bankhead Theater stage this Saturday.



COURTESY LVA

Classic Albums Live will play Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble's debut album "Texas Flood" in its entirety on Jan. 31.



PAUL MOBLEY / COURTESY LVA

Grammy winner Colin Hay, best known for his hits with Men at Work, is performing an acoustic set at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Jan. 24.

Hits of John Denver, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Men At Work at the Bankhead

The Texas Tenors, ukulele masters, 'Rock of Ages' production, Tri-Valley RISE also on tap in January

BY JEREMY WALSH

Music with roots in Hawaii, Texas, the Rocky Mountains, Appalachia and Australia will grace the stage in Livermore early in the new year.

A small business support showcase, a speaker spotlighting the benefits of just breathing and a rockin' love story too.

The busy first month of 2025 for the Bankhead Theater gets underway at 7:30 p.m. this Friday (Jan. 3) with the father-son duo of Andrew and Jay Molina showing off their ukulele skills in a special concert at the venue's Stage Door Lounge.

The next night, the theater welcomes back Jim Curry's tribute to the timeless music of John Denver, performing many of the hits made famous by the singer-songwriter like "Rocky Mountain High", "Sunshine", "Calypso" and more.

"The music of the late John Denver is like an old friend, out-lasting trends and standing the test of time, one of the most beloved singer-songwriters ever to grace the stage," Livermore Valley Arts officials said ahead of the show.

"In Take Me Home: The Music of John Denver, as a life-long fan, Curry dedicates himself to continuing John Denver's legacy of songs and his message of love and caring for our planet to future generations," LVA reps added while

noting that Curry's "uncanny ability to mirror John's voice and clean-cut look" really brings the tribute together.

The middle part of the month will be highlighted by Tri-Valley Theatre Company's production of "Rock of Ages" at the Bankhead.

Opening on Jan. 11 and running on Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 26, the jukebox musical sets a story of young love and lofty dreams in the backdrop of a rock 'n' roll nightclub in Hollywood, using some of the most popular songs of the 1980s to help tell the tale.

Country-classical crossover cowboys will climb the stage as The Texas Tenors, known for their "America's Got Talent" run and Emmy-winning PBS special, perform a mix of new music, American anthems and blended melodies on the evening of Jan. 17.

"The 15th Anniversary Tour will bring new music along with rousing patriotic favorites and everything from country to classical, mesmerizing audiences with their humor and charm, along with their vocal prowess," LVA officials said of the Tenors' show.

The following Tuesday, the Bankhead will host a collaborative event among Tri-Valley business support organizations and the Through The Grapevine podcast with the goal of "reaching and

inspiring" local entrepreneurs.

Tri-Valley RISE at 6 p.m. Jan. 21 will include a small business exposition, live interviews, keynote speakers and a special raffle.

"This event will place entrepreneurs in the same room with civic leaders, investors, real estate agents, executives and consumers," organizers said. "Refreshing and recharging how we create lasting personal and professional relationships in a room full of your peers. We implore you to be here with us, as we take on the New Year inspired ... and in style."

That same week, science journalist and author James Nestor will present his "Unlocking the Power of Breath" as part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series on Jan. 23.

Expounding upon the premise of his best-selling book "Breath", Nestor "explains that breathing is the key to transforming our lives ... He teaches us that even slight adjustments to our breathing can profoundly improve workplace efficiency, athletic performance, anxiety and sleep," LVA reps said.

One of the biggest headliners of the Bankhead's 2024-25 season arrives at 8 p.m. Jan. 24: Grammy-winning musician Colin Hay, best known for his work as the frontman of the Australian band Men At Work ("Down Under", "Who Can It Be Now?" and more).

The concert "promises to enthrall audiences with his soul-stirring music, where he'll delve into a treasure trove of multi-platinum hits", LVA reps said.

And to end the month, music of the Lone Star State will again fill the air in the Bankhead — this time courtesy of Classic Albums Live performing "Texas Flood", the debut album of the late Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble that includes songs like "Love Struck Baby", "Pride and Joy" and the title track.

The tribute act will play in full

the classic 1983 blues-rock album on Jan. 31 "exactly as you remember it — note for note, cut for cut", LVA reps said. "There is a playfulness to Stevie's music that comes to life on stage. This boogie woogie album will have you tapping your toes and rocking to thunder riffs that you've come to know and love."

For tickets and more information on all shows, go to livermorearts.org. LVA officials noted that the John Denver tribute and Colin Hay concerts in particular are almost sold out. ■



COURTESY LVA

The Texas Tenors are performing at the Bankhead Theater on Jan. 17.

'Such a blessing': Livermore mom receives donated car

Vehicle has helped provide reliable transportation to three children's schools, appointments

By JUDE STRZEMP

Livermore resident and single mother of three young children, Breanna Archuleta, was awarded her very first vehicle last month through the National Auto Body Council Recycled Rides program.

The National Auto Body Council is a not-for-profit organization that facilitates a program in which industry professionals collaborate to repair and donate vehicles to deserving individuals and service organizations.

Nominated by Shepherd's Gate — a faith-based, holistic shelter in Livermore — Archuleta received a refurbished, 2018 Chrysler 300.

Since being awarded the car life has been so much easier, 31-year-old Archuleta said.

Having two children with autism and a need for specialized services, therapies and medical appointments, she said her family's newfound transportation has been a blessing.

"I can just drop everyone where they need to be and handle what I need to handle," Archuleta said.

Before being awarded the new set of wheels, Archuleta grappled

with transportation for her children who range in age from 5 years old and below.

She would request Shepherd's Gate staff drive her eldest daughter to school, but sometimes she was denied due to low staffing, she said.

Another option was ride sharing, but holding each child's hand and three car seats for the crew made it a difficult task. Public transit came with its challenges too, since it was difficult for her two children with autism to sit while waiting or riding the bus.

Some days, Archuleta instead opted for a 25-minute walk to her eldest daughter's school, pulling her three kids in a wagon the whole way.

"It was just a really big physical strain on me," Archuleta said. And the near-hour long round-trip would make her late to program classes at Shepherd's Gate.

She faced similar challenges when it came to attending appointments for her children with autism.

Now equipped with a car, bringing her daughter to school has been much more efficient.

"Oh my gosh, it's so much easier because when you drive it's only



COURTESY FREEMAN COLLISION CENTER

Breanna Archuleta receives a ceremonial key and the real key to her car.



COURTESY FREEMAN COLLISION CENTER

Breanna Archuleta received a refurbished car through the National Auto Body Council Recycled Rides program on Nov. 25.

like seven minutes away," she said. "It's freed up a lot of time and it's so much easier."

Looking toward the future, when Archuleta transitions out of Shepherd's Gate the vehicle will allow her to travel between work, childcare and school which would

have otherwise been impractical. "I'm super grateful that they picked me to receive (the car) because it's been such a blessing," Archuleta said.

The vehicle was donated by Farmers Insurance and refurbished by the technicians of Freeman

Collision Center of Santa Rosa. "It was so special to gift a 2018 Chrysler 300 Limited to a young woman that has bravely managed through some challenges in her life," Freeman Collision Center collision director Jesse Parks said in a statement. ■

Musical odes to Mount Diablo

SMD volunteer band Blue-Eyed Grass releases self-titled album

By JEANITA LYMAN

Fans of the local volunteer band benefiting Save Mount Diablo can now listen to their music on demand at home as well as in person during the conservation nonprofit's fundraising events, with Blue-Eyed Grass recently releasing a self-titled album.

The album consists primarily of original songs from the band, along with two others made famous by the Grateful Dead, putting messages of environmentalism and conservationism to music.

Themes include the band's love for Mount Diablo, its native flora and fauna, the historic beacon at the summit of the mountain, and the recreational activities the state park fosters, as well as challenges it faces, including climate change and invasive species.

The album release was celebrated during a party at Luigi's Deli and Market in Martinez before Christmas, in which CD copies of the album were provided in exchange for donations.

Blue-Eyed Grass consists of Save Mount Diablo Executive Director Ted Clement on guitar and vocals; board member John Gallagher on dobro and vocals; Bob Loomis on ukulele, harmonica, flute and vocals; Dave Schneider on bass and vocals; and Rich Silveira on (recycled)



COURTESY SMD

The new self-titled album (cover seen below) from Save Mount Diablo's volunteer band Blue-Eyed Grass (above) is available to stream now on major online music platforms.

drums and vocals. Clayton resident Bob Byers served as recording engineer for the album, with Edward Sortwell Clement — Ted Clement's son — providing album art.

Those who missed the album launch party can still support the project — and listen to the album — on all of the major online music platforms, with band members encouraging listeners to like, share and engage with the music and its themes. ■



TAKE US ALONG



Remembering Jerry in Ireland: Kathy and Carol Boster of Pleasanton took the Weekly along in late July when they visited Ireland, posing here at the windy Cliffs of Moher towering 700 feet above the crashing waves of the Atlantic Ocean.

The pair were in Ireland to attend the International Clarinet Association's annual conference Clarinetfest, where Kathy's group Clarinet Fusion performed. And they brought a special paper with them: "That particular edition of the Weekly contains our dad/husband Jerry's obituary. He passed in December of 2023, and we wanted to make sure we had something of him on the trip with us," Kathy said.

To submit your "Take Us Along" entry, email your photograph to editor@pleasantonweekly.com. Be sure to identify who is in the photo (names listed from left to right), the location, the date and any relevant details about where you took your Weekly.

Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Convicted killer found guilty of murdering two women in 1986

A 63-year-old man already serving life in prison for murder has been convicted of killing two young women in Fremont in 1986.

A jury found David Emery Misch guilty last month of the first-degree murders of Michelle Xavier, 18, and Jennifer Duey, 20.

The naked bodies of Xavier and Duey, who were best friends, were found along the side of Mill Creek Road, a little more than a mile east of Mission Boulevard, shortly after midnight on Feb. 2, 1986, Fremont police said at the time.

Misch was previously convicted in the December 1989 stabbing death of 36-year-old Margaret Ball in unincorporated Hayward. He is also charged and awaiting trial in the 1988 kidnapping and killing of 9-year-old Michaela Garecht from a Hayward grocery store parking lot, a case that has garnered national attention.

"This conviction is a testament to this office's commitment to seeking justice for victims and their families, even if it takes decades," chief assistant district attorney Royle Roberts said in a statement. "I only wish we could have delivered justice sooner for these two families."

Xavier's Pontiac Sunbird was located parked about 6 miles away from the crime scene in the parking lot of the Mission Valley Shopping Center in Fremont, police said at the time.

Xavier and Duey had attended a birthday dinner for a family member and were last seen together at about 8 p.m. on Feb. 1, 1986, at a convenience store in the area of Farwell Drive and Mowry Avenue, police said.

Evidence presented at the trial showed that DNA found under Jennifer Duey's nails in 2001 belonged to Misch, prosecutors said.

In 2003, while serving life for kidnapping and murder, Misch claimed to Fremont Police that he had seen the two young women being kidnapped at gunpoint and tried to save them.

"This was his explanation for the presence of his DNA in this case," prosecutors said.

Also presented as evidence was a partial license plate number associated with Misch written on one of the victim's hands, according to prosecutors.

Misch faces 50 years to life after being convicted of the women's murders.

The double slaying was reopened after a position was created in 2016 in the Crimes Against Persons Unit to focus on open cold case

homicides and missing persons, police said.

A cold case detective began to re-examine case files as well as several pieces of evidence, including those that had been processed for DNA in recent years, and the evidence identified Misch as the main suspect, according to police.

Fremont police said Misch lived in the area at the time of the slayings and was a known commercial burglar and drug user.

Police had said they didn't believe Xavier and Duey had any history or contact with Misch before they were killed.

In the Garecht case, the girl was kidnapped at about 10:15 a.m. on Nov. 19, 1988, after she and a friend had ridden their scooters to the Rainbow Grocery store on Mission Boulevard to buy candy and sodas.

The girls left the scooters right outside the store while they shopped. When they went to retrieve them, one had been moved behind a parked car in the back area of the lot, according to police.

When Garecht went to get the scooter, police allege Misch grabbed her and forced her into the front seat of the car as she walked past. Misch was charged in the Garecht case in December 2020 and is awaiting trial.

—Bay City News Service

In other news

- In early December, Hayward police issued a press release about a fatal shooting that occurred behind an industrial complex near the 25000 block of Industrial Boulevard. The decedent, Shawn Freeman, was a former resident of Livermore.

While Freeman was not named in Hayward PD's press release, he was confirmed as the victim in a family social media post on Dec. 26.

According to the family's post, 42-year-old Freeman was unhoused and the area in which the shooting took place was an encampment.

Hayward police said in their statement that on Dec. 7 around 11:45 p.m., officers arrived on scene and located an adult male victim suffering from gunshot wounds.

Officers and medical personnel provided medical treatment at the scene and the victim was transported to an area hospital for further treatment. The victim later succumbed to his injuries at the hospital and was pronounced deceased on Dec. 8.

Freeman's death marked the city of Hayward's 14th homicide in 2024. The investigation is ongoing and anyone with information related to the homicide is asked to call Detective Scott Navas at 510-293-7176.

—Cierra Bailey

- A Dublin man was arrested in the town of Corte Madera last month on suspicion of shoplifting, being a felon in possession of a weapon and for possession of drugs, according to police.

At about 9:30 p.m. Dec. 20, Central Marin Police Authority officers responded to a disturbance at a grocery store in Corte Madera. A store employee reported a man screaming, making threats and had possibly also stolen merchandise.

Police made contact with a 48-year-old man from Dublin who matched the description given by the employee. Officers interviewed store employees and witnesses about the possible crimes committed. Police said they determined probable cause existed to arrest the man for criminal threats and shoplifting.

Two days before that, California's Proposition 36 took effect, which allows for law enforcement to add additional charges if an offender has a prior history of theft convictions and is picked up on a new theft case.

The suspect was determined to have had prior theft convictions and was booked into the Marin County Jail on suspicion of petty theft with priors, making criminal threats, shoplifting and being a felon in possession of a stun gun. Police also allege he had illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia.

The suspect, whose name was not released, is being held on \$50,000 bail and was still in custody Christmas evening.

—Katy St. Clair, Bay City News

- Alameda County prosecutors have dropped involuntary manslaughter charges against Alameda police officer Eric McKinley in the 2021 death of Mario Gonzalez, the DA's office announced.

The dismissal came after what were described as inconsistencies in testimony from Dr. Bennet Omalu, the forensic pathology expert for the family of Gonzalez, the District Attorney's office said in a press release issued Dec. 20.

Gonzalez died on April 19, 2021, while being detained by McKinley and two other officers, James Fisher and Cameron Leahy after a disturbance call. He was restrained face-down and in handcuffs at the time, the press release further noted.

Prosecutors previously dismissed charges against Fisher and Leahy, leaving McKinley as the sole defendant.

Omalu, the former chief forensic pathologist for San Joaquin County, who performed a second autopsy for Gonzalez's family, concluded the cause of death was "restraint asphyxiation," conflicting with the Alameda County Coroner's finding of "toxic effects of methamphetamine," prosecutors said.

Omalu recently filed a request to avoid testifying in court and

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Klaus and Dasher

Any Doberman fans looking for a new friend? There are currently two male Doberman Pinschers at the East County Animal Shelter in Dublin who are looking for new families: 3-year-old Klaus and 2-year-old Dasher. They arrived separately and will need individual homes. Both are neutered, vaccinated and microchipped and ready for their new homes today. Contact Tri-Valley Animal Rescue via tvar.org.

submitted a statement under oath that conflicted with his earlier testimony in the civil case, the DA's office said.

Prosecutors said the inconsistencies prevented them from proving McKinley's role beyond a reasonable doubt.

In November, Omalu issued a statement saying that he had performed the second autopsy strictly for the purpose of the civil court litigation matter, procedures and settlements and if he had been informed that his second autopsy would or could be used for criminal prosecution of a police officer, he would not have performed the autopsy.

In his statement, Omalu said that after receiving a subpoena from the Alameda County DA to testify, he voluntarily provided his entire work folder on the second autopsy he performed to the DA.

"This is within the generally accepted principles and standards of practice of medicine, whereby a physician can provide testimony in the court of law using the work products of another physician who is not available for whatever reason," Omalu said.

Omalu said his testimony "is merely redundant of the information contained in both autopsy reports."

—Bay City News Service

- A former agent with the FBI has been indicted with multiple charges including cyberstalking, witness tampering and obstructing a criminal investigation, according to court papers unsealed last month by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Paul Raymond Flood, 54, of Castro Valley, was arrested Dec. 17 and made his first court appearance the next day, according to prosecutors.

According to the indictment, which was originally filed in May, Flood was a special agent with the

FBI from 2007 through 2019.

In early October 2018, Flood met a first-year law student, referred to in the indictment as "Victim-1" or "V-1", who had contacted him for information on pursuing a future career with the FBI. A family member of the woman, referred to in the indictment as "B-1", knew Flood and referred the woman to him, according to prosecutors.

Within a few weeks of meeting the woman, Flood allegedly began to make unwelcome romantic advances toward her and engaged in a pattern of "harassing and intimidating conduct," the DOJ said.

Although the woman initially did not report Flood due to her family's fear of retaliation, she reported him in June 2019 to federal and local law enforcement authorities, prosecutors said.

Shortly thereafter, the FBI suspended Flood from duty and an investigation into him began. In response to the investigation, Flood allegedly employed various means to pressure, harass, intimidate, and persuade the woman to help him by not providing statements or testimony in the investigations against him.

The indictment charges Flood with one count of cyberstalking, two counts of witness tampering by intimidation, threats, corrupt persuasion, or misleading conduct; one count of witness tampering by harassment, and one count of obstruction of a criminal investigation by bribery.

If convicted, Flood faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison on each witness tampering count, three years in prison on the witness tampering count, and five years in prison on each count of cyberstalking and obstruction, according to prosecutors.

Flood is currently on conditional release. His next appearance in federal court is scheduled for Jan. 15. ■

—Katy St. Clair, Bay City News

Dublin's first mayor, Pete Snyder, left huge legacy

Few people, public officials and volunteers alike, have left the legacy that Dublin's first mayor, Pete Snyder, carved into Dublin and the Livermore Valley.

I knew Pete in my role as a local newspaper editor as well as a community leader. We collaborated on many projects including the formation of the Tri-Valley Community Fund where Pete served many years as a director. Our kickoff event was a charity auction and our mutual friend and fund director Jim Krause suggested we needed different auction items to start the event with a bang.

Pete sold his tuxedo shirt, being ready to pull it off for the winner, while I was convinced to sell the beard I had worn for several years. Hacienda Business Park co-developer Joe Callahan, a driving force behind the fund, bought it and a few weeks later, my regular barber shaved it off under the arch in Joe's headquarters office building on Chabot Drive (it includes an arch like the park entrance)

Pete's steady leadership helped move the fund forward, but his most

important contributions were helping shape the city. He pushed hard for the civic center, an expenditure and design that I criticized, but one that has become a source of pride to the community as well as a gathering point for valley-wide groups.

He also established the public art program in Dublin, raising the money privately to launch it with the globe Gaia that is located in the courtyard at the civic center. Today, the city owns 39 art pieces on public land around the community.

Prior to incorporation, Dublin's retail businesses were a cash cow for Alameda County which paid little attention to the suburban neighborhoods. Snyder and his fellow councilmembers wanted to pull the community together.

One of those initiatives continues this day — Dublin Pride Week — where citizens volunteer for a variety of jobs to clean-up and beautify the community. It's a hands-on morning to unite and inspire people about their city.

He and his fellow council members along with city manager Rich

Ambrose (25 years in the role) stayed true to the vision of an efficient city with a small core staff and most services provided by contractors. Those have included the county fire department and sheriff's department as well as public works; ask Dublin citizens about services and they're a happy bunch.

After leaving the City Council, he was elected to the BART board with the stated goal adding a second station closer to what eventually Dublin hopes to be its downtown core.

Working on a nine-member board, he demonstrated his political dexterity by engineering the station. It was a public/private partnership and since its construction housing has been developed nearby creating easy commutes for people with jobs over the hill. It also has been great for nearby businesses such as Workday, Safeway and 10x Genomics allowing easy public transit commutes for their workers.

Pete famously said that he would be home in heaven (adjusting the quote) before BART went to Livermore. He saw that seven years ago when the

BART board turned its collective back on a 60-plus year commitment to Livermore and formally ended plans for the Livermore extension in 2018.

That gave impetus to Valley Link, a 42-mile route to connect the Dublin-Pleasanton terminal station with San Joaquin County using the county-owned right-of-way through the Altamont Pass. The 22-mile first phase will connect BART with the Mountain House transit center potentially using helium-powered cars running every 15 minutes.

Former mayor Tim Sbranti recognizes how much the city has changed and how few people remember Snyder's multitude of contributions. He engineered the naming and dedication of the plaza on the Dublin side of the west BART station in Snyder's honor with a suitable plaque.

Snyder died on Oct. 13 at age 89. In addition to his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, he's survived by his wife of 68 years, Priscilla. The family invites the public to celebrate his life on Jan. 10, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Shannon Community Center in Dublin. ■

LETTERS

Amazing tribute to DFC

I am a 31-year veteran journalist in the Bay Area (Oakland Tribune, Associated Press, KTVU, San Jose Mercury News), but I got my start in 1993 at the Concord Transcript alongside a woman named Dolores Fox Ciardelli. We were hired as reporters the same month, but Dolores quickly became an editor.

Although I was a single woman in my 20s at the time and Dolores was a 40-something married mother of two young children, we became fast friends in addition to colleagues.

Dolores regaled me with stories about living in Saudi Arabia and Thailand, shared the ups and downs of raising kids, was always available for a sushi lunch and was a firm but encouraging editor to me, fresh out of J school.

Dolores and I worked at the Transcript together for three years, but our friendship remained and grew strong over the decades.

When I last saw Dolores at her sister's home in San Jose last year, she was a shadow of her former self but her dry wit, positive outlook and amazing intellect were still right on point.

Your story about her life, her career, her accomplishments and her unwavering commitment to journalism was excellent. You captured it all, but most

of all you captured the kindness, compassion and humanity that Dolores brought to the world. For this, I thank you.

Jeremy, although our paths have never crossed in the journalism world, it is obvious to me that you excel at the craft and bring to the profession many important traits of a good scribe.

—Kristin Bender

Elf Café for a good cause

My daughter and a group of her third grade friends from Walnut Grove Elementary wanted to raise money to donate to Walnut Grove to purchase new gym equipment for the PE department.

The girls dreamed up the idea of "The Elf Café" where they could sell homemade cookies, scones, brownies and hot chocolate somewhere in Pleasanton. Nick Valenziano of Porky's Pizza Palace was nice enough to offer them a spot and a few tables to use in front of the store.

As soon as school let out for Christmas break the girls met at Porky's with the homemade goodies they made the night before and spent five hours selling the treats to Porky's customers. In total, they raised \$424 to donate to Walnut Gove for new PE equipment.

I thought this would be a short but "sweet" story to share about a group of Pleasanton third graders spending a portion of their spring break to give

back to the Pleasanton community: Kayla Moshell, Reiss Steinle, Anika Mohanty, Taryn Hamblin, Brooke Steinle, Cameron Vu, Serena Han and Claire Yoon.

—Brad Steinle

How will local cities enforce new state parking rules?

Hi, this is a local Tri-Valley story suggestion: A 2024 state law restricts parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk. Only a warning could be issued in 2024; in 2025 parking tickets can be issued.

It goes further in referencing marked and "unmarked" crosswalks, which means it applies to any street corner too. It also has a section that allows local jurisdictions to override the distance with some level of safety review and marking it with paint or signage.

Downtown Livermore and Pleasanton have many marked parking spaces that don't comply to the law. That is unless those cities have reviewed and approved the spaces as allowed variances. How am I or anyone in the general public to know?

So here is a key point of the article. Will local cities quickly change these marked spaces and abstain from ticketing until the changes are made or is the public expected to know better and not use those spaces under risk of ticketing? I have seen articles and video interviews of traffic officials from around the state and there does

not appear to be a consensus on what local jurisdictions are responsible for.

San Diego is one major city taking action and responsibility. Livermore has had a year to act, but I don't see much evidence that they have. I'm no expert but you could research this and interview local officials. Thanks.

—Damon Genetti

Barone's redevelopment

The Pleasanton Weekly has been reporting on the proposed design for the Barone development, but have left out a lot of interesting facts.

The proposed development includes 14 "single-family homes", homes that are no more than one-foot apart, and being advertised as bringing "affordable" downtown homes — \$2.5 million and above, if that's affordable.

Additionally, a topic that I'm very passionate about (as I live next-door to the property) is that the developer is proposing to remove 39 out of 51 trees on the entire two parcels of land; 34 of these trees are classified as heritage, including a few Valley oak trees. Many residents in the area are absolutely devastated at the removal of the trees and asking the city to reconsider. For more info, please visit <https://savepleasantontrees.com>.

I hope we can get this story published as almost everyone I have spoken to is very supportive of a redesign of the proposal to include keeping more of the beautiful trees.

—Melissa Morgan

Pleasanton Weekly

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PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

Dreams dashed: Pressures push year-round horse races out of fairgrounds

Summer circuit still scheduled in Pleasanton, but 2025 fair season could mark end of NorCal racing

The dream Pleasanton residents had for year-round horse racing at the Alameda County Fairgrounds lasted all of 26 days of races before disappearing almost as quickly as it got here.

It started earlier this year — 2024 — when Golden Gate Fields finally made good on its repeated threats about closing the track for good, this time according to the plan, to consolidate racing in Southern California.

Northern California horsemen, the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) and the Alameda County Fair banded together, came up with a plan and made a push to be awarded the racing dates from Golden Gate Fields and begin to rebuild Northern California.

Initially in March when the California Horse Racing Board voted 6-0 to award the racing dates for Golden State Racing for a 26-day meet at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, there was a lot of

happiness, enthusiasm, and hope.

What started with awarding the dates in March was vanquished before the end of the year.

Hopes and dreams turned to failure and people's lives shattered within eight months. And the worst part: It was well on its way to be doomed before the first race was run in October.

At the heart of the issue was the unwillingness of groups with connections to Southern California — the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC) to name the biggest perpetrator — put the new Golden State Racing (GSR) organization so far in the hole, they were swimming in quicksand.

The purse structure forced upon GSR by the TOC before they signed an agreement was damning.

The CHRB needs to take a deep look at the TOC in the southern half of the state, making notice of their continual subversive actions that are a detriment to horse racing.

The TOC, an organization that

is supposed to represent the entire state, has always chosen to pursue what was best for SoCal instead of working toward a deal that would help the entire state.

Such has been the case for the TOC for as far back as I can remember. There are some very strong owners in the north that love the sport and were doing everything they could to save the North — George Schmitt and John Harris to name a couple.

But they were forced to swim upstream, facing a SoCal group that were determined to prevent NorCal from having a chance to succeed.

By December, GSR was out of money and nothing positive was coming out of the current situation, so the decision was made to pull their application for the spring meet that was set to start Dec. 26 and run up to the Alameda County Fair's summer circuit.

They were not able to continually hemorrhage money with little to no help from other horse racing entities.



CHUCK DECKERT

The historic horse track at the Alameda County Fairgrounds hosted the inaugural (and now only-ever) Golden State Racing fall meet in 2024, but industry pressures forced GSR to scuttle future plans in Pleasanton for 2025.

As of right now, Pleasanton is still a training track, with a commitment for now from Santa Anita to pay for vaning expenses for NorCal horses to make the trip down to Santa Anita to run in lower purse races than have recently been created.

Through one weekend, Santa Anita is following its plan, but I think people in the northern half of the state are looking at it as not if, but when, Santa Anita shuts out Northern California from horse racing.

The exciting and successful Summer Fair circuit run at Pleasanton, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Ferndale and Fresno still is scheduled to run in 2025 and I believe will in fact make it through this summer.

Unfortunately, it might be the last horse racing we see in NorCal.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons went 2-1 to start the Modesto Catholic Holiday tournament the week of Christmas.

The tournament started with a 66-61 loss to Bullard. Cade Krueger had 24 for Amador Valley, with Jaylen Smith and Kasen Krueger adding 14 each.

In game, Amador evened their record in the tournament with a 55-40 win over Manteca. Kasen Krueger and Smith had 13, with Chad Krueger getting 12 points.

Game three saw the Dons knock off Edison 67-51. Chad Krueger had 18 points, with Kasen Krueger adding 16. Smith had 13 points, with Dante Ventura rounding out the double-digit scorers with 11 points. ■

Email contributing sports writer Dennis Miller at acesmag@aol.com.

LPC soccer star named National Player of the Year

With most goals scored in state, Teclé led Hawks to deepest postseason run ever

By JEREMY WALSH

Las Positas College freshman forward Saul Teclé rounded out perhaps the best season ever for a Hawks soccer player by recently winning the United Soccer Coaches' Junior College Division III National Player of the Year award.

Announcing the honor two weeks ago, leaders at the community college in Livermore lauded Teclé's accomplishments during the 2024

season, which included finishing second in the nation and tied for first in California for goals scored with 27 and helping lead LPC to an upset of the No. 1 seed en route to its deepest-ever run in the 3C2A playoffs.

"Saul's success is a testament to his relentless drive, incredible skill and team-first mentality," said Andrew Cumbo, LPC assistant athletic director and coach of the men's and women's soccer teams.

"He has been an inspiring presence on and off the field, and this recognition is well-deserved. Saul embodies what it means to be an LPC Hawk — determined, passionate, and committed to excellence," Cumbo added in his statement released by the school Dec. 19.

Originally from Frankfurt, Germany and a graduate of Catawba Ridge High School in South Carolina, Teclé also had ties to the local Ballistic United Soccer Club before his standout first season with Las Positas. "We're proud to have had the experience watching him learn and grow into an incredible player," BUSC officials said in a Facebook post celebrating his national award.

Teclé's other individual honors included Coast Conference North Forward of the Year, 1st Team All-Conference, 3C2A All-North Region Team, 3C2A All-State Team, 1st Team All-West Region and 1st Team All-America Team.

Led by Teclé's goal-scoring prowess, the Hawks (13-8-4) entered the 3C2A tournament seeded 17th and

beat No. 16 seed San Joaquin Delta 5-1 in the opener. They then upset top-seeded Evergreen Valley 2-0 before their season came to an end in the third round of the NorCal Regionals.

"This is a momentous achievement not only for Saul but for

our entire athletics program at Las Positas College," LPC President Dyrell Foster said in a statement. "His hard work, dedication and exceptional talent have elevated the Hawks and set a new benchmark for student-athletes across our campus." ■



BRYN POWER PHOTOGRAPHY / COURTESY LPC

Las Positas College soccer star Saul Teclé (center) was named the United Soccer Coaches' Junior College Division III National Player of the Year.

Employment

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Sr Data Platform Engineer (20637.2239) in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Develop and automate high-performance data processing systems to drive Workday business growth and improve the product experience. Salary: \$160200 - \$240200 per year, 40 hours per week. Interested candidates send resume to: J. Thurston at Workday, Inc., 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference Job#20637.2239

Workday, Inc. has an opening for Site Reliability Engineer (20637.1182) in Pleasanton, CA. Job duties include: Deploy and administer 24x7 Oracle and PostgreSQL Database on Cloud infrastructure, with a focus on the performance, high availability and scale. Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. Salary \$144000 - \$216000 per year. 40 hours per week. Interested candidates send resume to: J. Thurston at Workday, Inc., 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference Job#20637.1182

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

Public Notices

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 601346

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): SENIOR CARE AUTHORITY 1101 Marina Village Pkwy Suite 201 Alameda, CA 94501 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 10/12/2023 UNDER FILE NO. 601346 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): ORA MANAGEMENT 105 Laurel Knoll Dr. Suite 1 Martinez, CA 94553 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on December 06 2024. (PLW Dec 20, 2024, Jan 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 606119

The following person(s)/registrant(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as it appeared on the fictitious business statement that was filed at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME(S): W. SCHNEIDERMAN MANAGEMENT LLC 1423 Holly Street Berkeley, CA 94703 FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 05/06/2024 UNDER FILE NO. 606119 REGISTRANT'S NAME(S): W. SCHNEIDERMAN MANAGEMENT LLC 1423 Holly Street Berkeley, CA 94703 THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A Limited Liability Company. This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Alameda County on December 05 2024. (PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS AND RESPONDENTS: (AVISO AL DEMANDO):

ALAMEDA COUNTY; ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE MATTER OF THE VALIDITY OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA'S ADOPTION RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-484 [ADOPTING THE CSA REVOLVING FUND] AND RESOLUTION NO. R-2024-485 [ADOPTING REPAYMENT TERMS FOR DISBURSEMENT OF THE CSA REVOLVING FUND]; AND DOES 1 - 20

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF AND PETITIONER:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

CASTLEWOOD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

NOTICE! You have been sued. You may contest the legality or validity of the matter by appearing and filing a written answer to the complaint not later than February 3, 2025 . You may seek the advice of an attorney in any matter connected with the complaint or this summons. Such attorney should be consulted promptly so that your pleading may be filed or entered within the time required by this summons.

This reverse validation action challenges the validity of Defendant and Respondent Alameda County's ("County") October 8, 2024, adoption of the following resolutions by and through the Alameda County Board of Supervisors ("Board"): Resolution No. R-2024-484: Resolution Establishing a County Service Area Revolving Fund; appropriating one million four hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) thereto; and establishing a policy for use of the County Service Area Revolving Fund ["Revolving Fund Resolution"]; and Resolution No. R-2024-485: Resolution approving and establishing repayment terms for a disbursement of one million four hundred thousand dollars (\$1,400,000) from the County Service Area Revolving Fund to the funds of Castlewood County Service Area (R-1967-1) ["Repayment Terms Resolution"]. Persons who contest the legality or validity of the matter will not be subject to punitive action, such as wage garnishment or seizure

of their real or personal property.

CASE NUMBER: 24CV102510 (Numero del Caso):

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court Of California, County Of Alameda Rene C. Davidson Courthouse 1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): BUCHALTER

A Professional Corporation ALICIA GUERRA (SBN: 188482) 425 Market Street, Suite 2900 San Francisco, CA 94105 Telephone: 415.227.0900 KEVIN T. COLLINS (SBN: 185427) CARISSA M. BEECHAM (SBN: 254625) 500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1900 Sacramento, CA 95814 Telephone: 916.945.5191 DATE: 12/18/24 Clerk, by /s/ J. Moyer Deputy Clerk (Fecha) (Secretario)

[SEAL]

(PLW Jan 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

DAANISH TECHNOLOGIES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611010

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

1.) Daanish Technologies , located at 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd Ste 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.

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

DAANISH LLC 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd Ste 300 Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/18/2021

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 04 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

SAREE CULTURE

XTRA COZY FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611306

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

1.) Saree Culture , 2.) Xtra Cozy , located at 5424 Sunol Blvd STE 10-544, Pleasanton CA 94566-7705, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

MADHURA CHANDWASKAR 5424 Sunol Blvd STE10-544 Pleasanton CA 94566

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 December 18 2024.

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

SPICY HOUSE

CHINA VILLA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611030

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

1.) Spicy House , 2.) China Villa , located at 4022 East Ave Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

TIANYUAN YANG 4022 East Ave Livermore, CA 94550

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/11/2017

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 05 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

HANATHE3D

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 610413

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

1.) HANATHE3D , located at 741 Begonia Dr. 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):

ZIEANY LLC 741 Begonia Dr. San Leandro, CA 94578

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 01 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

MURPHY'S PAW

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 610740

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

1.) Murphy's Paw , located at 410 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

VINNIMAN INC. 410 Main Street Pleasanton, CA 94566

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 November 20 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

KC BEAUTY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 610872

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

1.) KC Beauty , located at 5668 Bay St. Emeryville, CA 94608, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

KATHLEEN MURILLO 414 Taylor Ave. Alameda, CA 94501

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 November 26 2024.

(PLW Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024 and Jan 3, 2025)

MAXWELL AND KENNEDY STAGING AND DESIGN

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611056

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

1.) Maxwell And Kennedy Staging And Design , located at 17669 Mayflower Drive Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a General Partnership.

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

SUMMER KENNEDY 17669 Mayflower Drive Castro Valley, CA 94546

DANIELE MAXWELL 3629 Arcadian Drive 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 December 06 2024.

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

CLAIR DE LUNE SF

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 610803

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

1.) CLAIR DE LUNE SF , located at 19035 MAYBERRY DRIVE, CASTRO VALLEY, CA 94546, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/21/2024.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 25 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

LUNACADO MAGNETS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611357

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

1.) Lunacado Magnets , located at 1311 Park St Unit 468 Alameda CA, 94501, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

SUVICHA BOUNGUNHA 1311 Park St Unit 468 Alameda, CA 94501

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/19/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 20 2024.

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

PAWFECT STUFF CO.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611045

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

1.) PAWFECT STUFF CO. , located at 5569 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a General Partnership.

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

QIUWEN LI 5569 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568

XIUQI CAI 5569 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/25/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 05 2024.

(PLW Dec 20, 2024, Jan 3, 10 and 17, 2025)

THRIFT CENTER THRIFT STORES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 610633

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

1.) Thrift Center Thrift Stores , located at 1047 Serpentine Lane Suite 600 Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.

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

UNITED SALVAGE CORPORATION 1047 Serpentine Lane, Suite 600 Pleasanton, CA. 94566

State of Incorporation/Organization: California

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/19/1972

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on November 14 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

SPRING TIDE COACHING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No.: 611021

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

1.) Spring Tide Coaching , located at 11833 Dublin Green Drive Dublin, CA 94568 , Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.

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

PATRICIA MCMURDIE 11833 Dublin Green Drive Dublin, CA 94568

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/12/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 04 2024.

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV104102

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Subramanya Subhash Kodnad filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SUBRAMANYA SUBHASH KODNAD to SUBHASH SUBRAMANYA KODNAD

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: April 25, 2025, 9am PST, Civil Division (Dept# 514) of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda

located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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: Dec 23, 2024

THOMAS NIXON

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV103265

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Ryan Jitvirakbot Thlang filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

RYAN JITVIRAKBOT THLANG to RYAN VIRAKBOT TEK

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: 03/21/2025, 9:00 am, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward California 94544.

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: 12/17/24

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV098984

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Shayla Loren Owen filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SHAYLA LOREN OWEN to SHAYLA LOREN BATYAH

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: March 28, 2025, 9:30 AM, 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: November 12, 2024

Thomas L Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2025)

Continued on next page

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

Case No.: 24CV099601

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Chloe Taylor filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CHLOE ISABELLE TAYLOR to CHLOE ISABELLE BYRON

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: 4/4/2025, 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: 11/15/2024

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV101715

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: VICTORIA THUY VY PHAM filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

VICTORIA THUY VY PHAM to AMINYA VICTORIA THUY VY MILANIYA

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: MAY 2, 2025, 9:30AM, Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.

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: December 5, 2024

HAN TRAN

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV100824

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Mary Therese Harvey Melchor and Diane Fu filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ALEX JEAN FU to ALEX JEAN HARVEY FU

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: 4/11/2025, 9:30, Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St, Oakland, CA 94607.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 11/25/2024

Thomas I. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV098672

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Juliana Li filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ATHENA KAHSSON LI-ALI to AILENE WING-KEI KAHSOON LI-ALI

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: 03/28/2025, 09:30AM, 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: 11/08/2024

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024 and Jan 3, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV101905

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Josselyn Gil Verdin filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

JOSSelyn GIL VERDIN to JOSSelyn VERDIN

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: 02/07/2025, 9:30am, Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St., Oakland CA 94607.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 11/08/2024

Thomas Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 6, 13, 20, 2024 and Jan 3, 2025)

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

Case No.: 24CV101905

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Josselyn Gil Verdin filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

JOSSelyn GIL VERDIN to JOSSelyn VERDIN

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: 02/07/2025, 9:30am, Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St., Oakland CA 94607.

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

PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Date: 12/06/2024

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024, Jan 3 and 10, 2025)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: PETER HOWARD YANG

Case No.: 24PR101186

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of PETER HOWARD YANG.

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

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

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 10 2025 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.

Petitioner in Pro Per: Sophia Shin

5650 Lexington Ave Unit 401 Dublin, CA 94568

925-548-0675 (PLW Dec 13, 20, 2024 and Jan 3, 2025)

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.

CALENDAR

Entertainment

THE WORLD OF UKULELE Experience one of Hawaii's great ukulele-fronted duos, father and son Andrew and Jay Molina, as they share songs, stories and laughter. This limited-seating performance at The Stage Door Lounge on The Bankhead stage is sure to be magical. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 3. Visit livermorearts.org.

ROCK OF AGES This Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical features the hits of bands including Night Ranger, REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister and more. 7 p.m., Jan. 11, 18, 25; 1 p.m., Jan. 12, 19, 25-26. Tickets \$45. Visit livermorearts.org.

THE TEXAS TENORS Join The Texas Tenors for an unforgettable evening filled with new music, patriotic anthems and a captivating blend of Country and Classical melodies. 8 p.m., Jan. 17. Tickets \$70-\$100. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO STAND-UP COMEDY From the producers of one of the longest running independent shows in America, Best of San Francisco Stand-Up Comedy, comes this comedy tour de force from some of the hottest up and coming acts in the Bay Area. 8 p.m., Jan. 18. Tickets. \$28. Visit firehousearts.org.

PYTC-FINDING NEMO KIDS Disney's Finding Nemo KIDS is a 30-minute musical adaptation of the beloved 2003 Pixar movie Finding Nemo, which brings a vibrant underwater world to life on stage in a story full of family, friendship and adventure. Jan. 18-19; 25-26. Tickets \$13. Visit firehousearts.org.

Exhibits

BACK TO THE MOON AND THE STARS BEYOND This captivating and educational art exhibit merges space exploration history with modern advancements in astronomy taking visitors on a visual journey through time. Experience this free exhibit at the UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater. Now through Jan. 5.

GADGETS GALORE EXHIBIT AT MUSEUM ON MAIN A wide variety of gadgets, both recognizable and strange, will be on display in "Gadgets Galore! Transforming the American Household", illustrating how industrialization transformed every American household in the 19th-century. Now through Jan. 11. Visit museumonmain.org.

FLORA IN FOCUS EXHIBIT The Harrington Gallery welcomes back the Flora in Focus group exhibition featuring approximately 80 works of various mediums. Jan. 11 to March 8. 444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

Farmers' Market

PLEASANTON FARMERS' MARKET

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

LIVERMORE SUNDAY FARMERS' MARKET Gather for music, food

and fresh local and organic products directly from producers. Support small businesses and local sustainable agriculture. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sundays. Between J St. and L St.

Outdoor Rec

SYCAMORE GROVE STROLL Join an LARPD Ranger for a leisurely stroll in Sycamore Grove Park for an easy 1.5-mile hike on a flat trail. Learn some interesting facts about our wildlife and plant life along the way. 3-4 p.m., Jan. 4. Visit larpd.org.

EARLY BIRD WALK Join LARPD for a brief introduction to some of the birds in the park followed by a walk. Welcome to all ages and all abilities. 7-8 a.m., Jan. 5. Visit larpd.org.

BEGINNING WINTER BIRDING Discover the beautiful world of birds and learn about the basics of birding and bird migration. The program includes a walk along a gravel-paved trail with rolling hills for about a mile. 9:30-11 a.m., Jan. 5. Drop-in program, no registration. Del Valle Regional Park, East Shore/Dog Run Trail.

Talks

LIFE ON A BRITISH AIR FORCE BASE Join this Armchair Travelers presentation where Caitlyn Lung will present "RAF Lakenheath: Life on a British Air Force Base" and share photos and stories from her 2023 and 2024 visits to this British Air Force base approximately 80 miles northeast of London. 1:30 p.m., Jan. 9. Livermore Civic Center Library.

LIVERMORE-AMADOR VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Steve Campbell, longtime nurserymen, will discuss and demonstrate pruning fruit trees for size control, dormant, spraying, and offer pruning tips for other shrubs and trees. 6-8 p.m., Jan. 9. Crosswinds Church, 1660 Freisman Road, Livermore, Red Farm Theater Building.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS Rachel D.K. Clark, a contemporary folk artist, teacher and lecturer, has been doing wearable art since 1973 and teaching on the national circuit since 1990. Eclectic fabric mixes, vibrant designs and a keen sense of humor characterize Rachel's work. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Jan. 11. Visit amadorvalleyquilters.org/WordPress/.

MEET AUTHOR ALYTHIA CONNER Join Towne Center Books for Discussion & Dessert with author, journalist and editor Alythia Conner. She will read from her new book, "The Runaway Offering" and answer questions. 6-7 p.m., Jan. 16. To register for this free event visit townecenterbooks.com.

Support

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD Join to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries to help with sewing, ironing and cutting. Sewing machines or sergers, irons, ironing boards and scissors are needed. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Jan. 18. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. For questions contact suzbeck@yahoo.com.

Real Estate

Commission endorses Cornerstone housing development

'A very needed project' — 253 new homes, including 100+ affordable, proposed in Livermore

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Planning Commission recently offered high praise and unanimous support for a 253-unit housing project called Cornerstone, proposed for construction in northeast Livermore.

Pending a final decision by the City Council, the project is set to feature 21 three-story residential buildings and one five-story apartment building at the northwest corner of the intersection of Collier Canyon Road and Constitution Drive.

Of the units, 143 units would be for-sale condominiums with six being affordable to moderate-income households. 108 units would be for-rent units, affordable to low-, lower-, very low- and extremely low-income households. An additional two rentals are intended for on-site managers and offered at market rate.

Additionally, the project includes construction of a 2.53-acre park, 0.4-acre public pocket park, trail extension and easement for the future development of a bridge across Collier Canyon Creek. The large park is set to include a play area, fitness area, large lawn for sports practices and seating. The pocket park would feature a community garden, bike parking and small grass area.



COURTESY CITY OF LIVERMORE

The Livermore Planning Commission endorsed a 253-unit housing project called Cornerstone at a regular meeting on Dec. 17.

Overall this development would contribute to the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan goal of offering 820 affordable units in the neighborhood, according to Commissioner Daniel Leary.

"I will wholeheartedly commend the applicant and the developer for this project," Commissioner Tracy Kronzak said at the Dec. 17 hearing. "If this gets built and goes through, you are providing an incredible service to our community."

The project was inspired through observation of a community struggling to afford housing in the Tri-Valley, according to Chris Stockhaus, landowner representative and lead

pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship.

"We felt like the best thing that we could do as an organization for the community was to build housing and maximize the number of affordable units that are designed for the people that we're interacting with on a daily basis who are in need," Stockhaus said.

Since the project offers over 40% of units at affordable rates, it far exceeds the 20% required by the INSP, said Michael Keeney, director of forward planning for project developer Trumark Homes.

"It's really great to see our local church is using property to really serve the community," Planning Commission Chair Jacob Anderson

said. "Crosswinds with Goodness Village, now Cornerstone with this project. This is really awesome to see."

As part of the proposal, applicant Pacific Companies sought two concessions to allow concentrated affordable rental units, four waivers related to building design and view protection and another seven waivers related to comparability of the affordable for-rent and for-sale units with the for-sale market rate units, according to the staff report.

"Since the concessions and waivers do not compromise health and safety or violate state or federal law, the concessions and waivers must be granted," according to the staff report.

Bridge construction was not included in the project proposal because building the bridge would require an agreement be made with the land owner on the other side of Collier Canyon Creek. The applicant agreed to contribute \$200,000 toward the future construction cost of the bridge.

In lieu of building the bridge, the developer will construct a 1,490-foot-long, lighted, multi-use trail that connects Constitution Drive with Collier Canyon Road and extends off-site to North Canyon Parkway.

Any grading required for this

trail was found to not cause a detriment to public safety or biological resources in the area.

As for transit, there will be first-level podium parking — on its deck there will be a courtyard with planters, furniture and eating area. Additional parking will be provided on the street level.

Also, the developer intends to add street parking and bike lanes to Collier Canyon Road, although the commissioners gave staff the authority to prioritize either improvement, as they may not be able to create both.

In addition to those improvements, Anderson directed staff to work with the applicant to create a shorter crosswalk at the intersection of Gateway Avenue and Collier Canyon Road.

The Cornerstone project is exempt from analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act, as the project is consistent with the Isabel Neighborhood Specific Plan and its certified supplemental environmental impact review, according to staff.

In the end, commissioners recommended the project to Livermore City Council for its approval.

"This is a very needed project and I really appreciate everyone who's been working on this," Vice Chair Yolanda Fintschenko said. ■

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Sept. 23 to Oct. 4 for Pleasanton, Sunol and Livermore.

Pleasanton

- 798 East Angela Street** Imperiale Living Trust to T. & A. Bordeaux for \$1,750,000
- 3732 Bairn Court** Rudiak Trust to D. & K. Ganesan for \$1,705,000
- 158 Birch Creek Terrace** R. & C. Kwok to C. & N. Redder for \$853,000
- 2162 Greenwood Road** Bd Survivors Trust to K. & E. Kim for \$1,515,000
- 1423 Groth Circle** K. & C. Clendenen to A. & A. Paldhe for \$1,000,000
- 3302 Harpers Ferry Court** J. Karnes to P. & S. Kolcak for \$1,450,000
- 7302 Joshua Circle** Blair Trust to S. & S. Patnaik for \$1,855,000
- 7310 Joshua Circle** Whippet Trust to M. Shansab for \$1,200,000
- 1511 Loganberry Way** Ganje Living Trust to D. & A. Muthu for \$1,500,000
- 455 Montori Court** Heckart Family Trust to Advani Trust for \$2,231,000
- 5455 San Antonio Street** Jones Family Trust to A. Dev for \$1,620,000
- 4382 Addison Way** V4 Build LLC to V. & S. Satya for \$1,600,000
- 4105 Alba Court** J. Ng to W. Li for \$870,000
- 206 Birch Creek Drive** K. Chu to A. & A. Kiland for \$875,000
- 42 Castledown Road** Jessup Living Trust to S. & P. Penmetsa for \$2,700,000
- 1158 Concord Street** Mcdermott Living Trust to S. & D. Burke for \$1,600,000
- 4674 Denker Drive** Whippet Trust to Ap Custom Builds LLC for \$1,035,000

- 4281 Denker Drive** Powell Trust to Wh1 LLC for \$1,160,000
- 1928 Fiorio Circle** Fleshman Living Trust to P. & D. Rath for \$1,100,000
- 2950 Liberty Drive** C. & J. Leporati to D. & B. Damodaran for \$1,510,000
- 1328 Montrose Place** Taft Trust to K. & Y. Chen for \$3,005,000
- 3390 Morgan Court** Whippet Trust to M. Shansab for \$1,150,000
- 139 Rocky Creek Place** Q. Lai to E. & J. Teng for \$1,900,000
- 4221 Sheldon Circle** Callahan Living Trust to A. Duggal for \$850,000
- 7335 Stonedale Drive** Haynes Trust to J. & K. Radish for \$1,045,000
- 3839 Vineyard Avenue #D** Whippet Trust to B. & A. Sanchez for \$550,000

Sunol

- 12007 Ruth Lane** M. & B. Palmer to C. & A. Sehenuk for \$848,000

Livermore

- 2963 Bresso Drive** S. & A. Duckworth to H. & B. Hulewat for \$2,250,000
- 1120 Camelia Drive** Zca Homes LLC to S. Feng for \$975,000
- 3661 Carrigan Common** J. Robles to J. Soares for \$655,000
- 704 Debra Street** Lillard Living Trust to S. & A. Singh for \$1,097,000
- 2785 Decker Lane** K. & D. King to B. & A. Lattin for \$1,925,000
- 763 El Rancho Drive** Breckenridge Prop Fund to J. & T. Snow for \$900,000
- 6468 Forget Me Not Common** B. Lee to P. & N. Thekkethil for \$683,000

- 1076 Glenn Common** L. & J. Patterson to K. & K. Duff for \$700,500
- 4298 Grove Court** T. Alleyn to Y. & J. Karnes for \$1,750,000
- 678 Hayes Avenue** Lindell Family Trust to C. & B. Moreno for \$1,650,000
- 1267 Hudson Way** Slage Family Trust to D. & G. Allen for \$1,525,000
- 937 South I Street** Hill Trust to D. & K. King for \$1,575,000
- 233 Joyce Street** Banuelos Family Trust to R. & A. Hernandez for \$1,295,000
- 881 Los Alamos Avenue** A. Lattin to A. & A. Kulkarni for \$1,320,000
- 1312 Melanie Way** Mckinsey Trust to C. & S. Dutrow for \$1,375,000
- 428 Mulqueeney Street** Morgan Living Trust to H. & J. Jin for \$1,026,000
- 3385 Pestana Way** Hinson Family Trust to A. & S. Jeong for \$895,000
- 63 Rainier Avenue** D. Mehlhaff to R. Dacquisto for \$1,735,000
- 602 Saddleback Circle** M. Arcibal to N. & E. Branning for \$1,100,000
- 1333 Saybrook Road** M. & J. Howard to N. & A. Singh for \$1,200,000
- 5676 Shorehaven Circle** D. & M. Piazza to Y. Karnati for \$1,195,000
- 2693 Superior Drive** D. & F. Costello to K. & C. Kuhns for \$1,800,000
- 427 Thrasher Avenue** J. Bhatt to T. & R. Patel for \$1,025,000
- 6361 Tiffany Common** Plemmons Family Trust to E. & G. Holmbeck for \$1,088,000
- 1345 Toulon Court** R. D'Acquisto to R. & R. Prentiss for \$2,375,000
- 801 Tranquility Circle #11** Espinoza Trust to D. & J. Alexander for \$806,000

- 214 Turnstone Drive** D. & G. Allen to Meissner-Bisagno Trust for \$1,410,000
- 3850 North Vasco Road** S. 1992 to D. Singh for \$1,440,000
- 843 Wall Street** Scott Living Trust to F. & A. Rodriguez for \$1,149,000
- 5186 Bianca Way** Whippet Trust to Ap Custom Builds LLC for \$940,000
- 2247 Bluffs Court** Hall-Peche Family Trust to K. & K. Kashikar for \$1,805,000
- 134 Campo Court** Williams Trust to Q. & H. Zhao for \$2,500,000
- 1055 Catalina Drive** Nolan Family Trust to L. & J. Marella for \$865,000
- 873 Debra Street** H. & J. Lettus to N. Brasil for \$1,150,000
- 524 Dovecote Lane #2** S. & K. Hallas to C. Uglow for \$960,000
- 384 Garden Common** M. Christoff to J. & L. Monroe for \$725,000
- 2940 Kennedy Street** Moreno Living Trust to B. & W. Tun for \$1,000,000
- 975 Murrieta Boulevard #25** Zeng & Song Living Trust to V. Bowen for \$340,000
- 1087 Murrieta Boulevard #152** M. Classen to B. Lee for \$375,000
- 1001 Murrieta Boulevard #84** J. & S. Wardlaw to I. Kellner for \$445,000
- 2967 Patcham Common** Rizik LLC to J. & P. Hylton for \$1,100,000
- 263 South R Street** C. Delfosse to M. & B. Shaffer for \$965,000
- 1259 Ridgestone Road** K. Huang to N. & V. Bhat for \$1,168,000
- 1581 Vancouver Way** Mowbray Trust to N. & Z. Wang for \$1,262,000

Source: California REsource



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