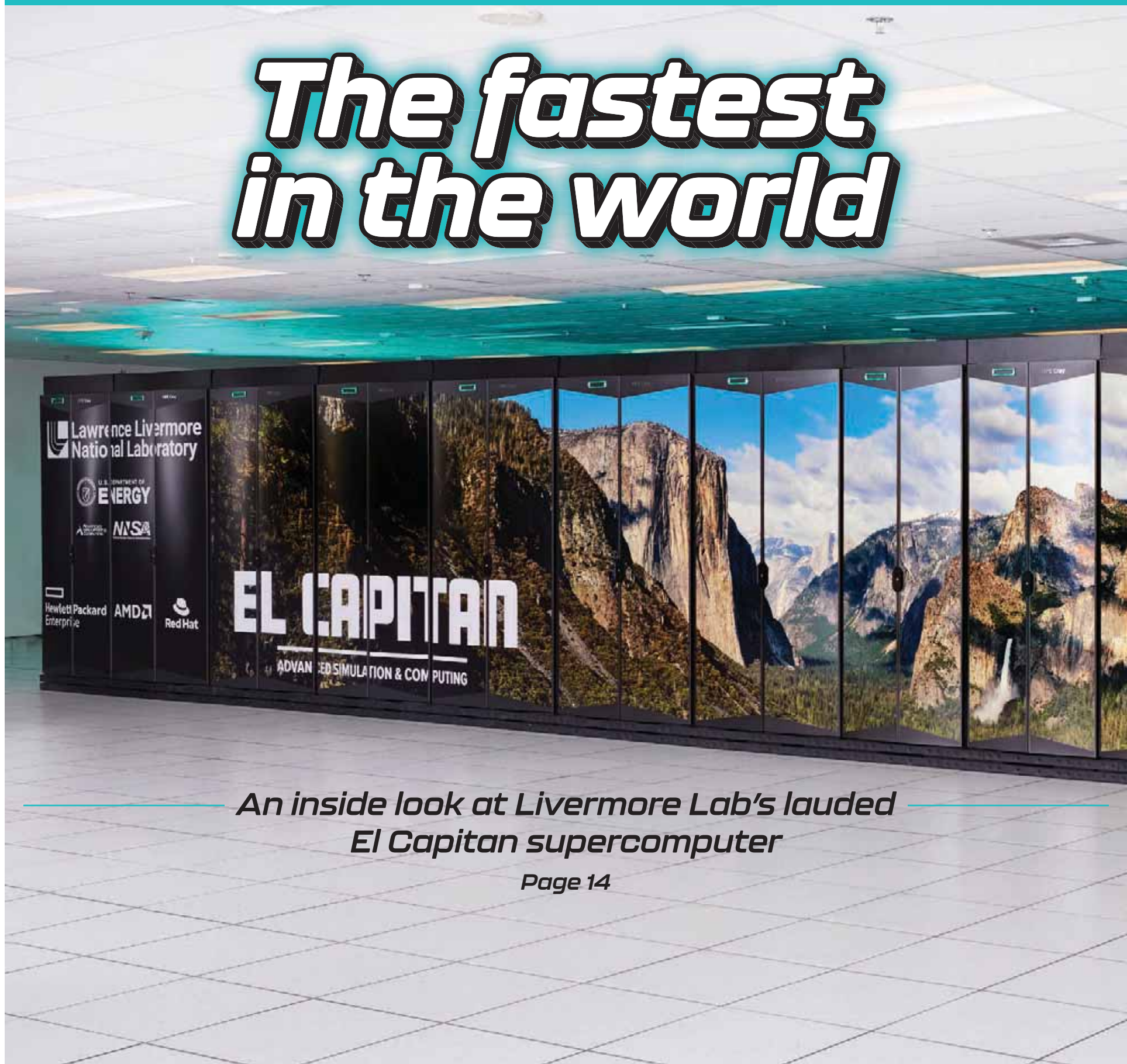




## *The fastest in the world*



*An inside look at Livermore Lab's lauded El Capitan supercomputer*

*Page 14*

- 5 | **NEWS** Council greenlights Barone's redevelopment
- 16 | **TRI-VALLEY LIFE** Imagination Expressed exhibit
- 19 | **SPORTS** Foothill dedicates court to late coach

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# WHAT A WEEK



BY JEREMY WALSH

## On Three Valleys

Two announcements from the Three Valleys Community Foundation caught my eye early this new year, so I reached out to get a better sense of what all this blossoming local nonprofit has planned for 2025 — turns out I'd get another news tip out of the inquiry too.

From my exchange with CEO/President Kelly Bowers, it's clear 3VCF stands as one of the most inspired and invigorated organizations in the Tri-Valley.

"We take great pride in responding to our community's needs in real time," Bowers told me by email last Friday.

"By reviewing needs assessment data, participating in roundtables and engaging in focus groups, we stay attuned to the most pressing challenges our constituents face ... we listen, learn and lean into our community's evolving needs, ensuring we continue to empower and facilitate transformational change where needed most," she added.

Founded in 2020 and beginning operations the following year, Three Valleys provides financial and organizational support to local nonprofits and projects — positioning itself as the "philanthropic anchor" in the region "through inclusive leadership, thoughtful funding, informed giving and collaborative action."

It is buoyed by some of the most important figures in the Amador, Livermore and San Ramon Valleys: John Sensiba (board chair), Pat O'Brien (treasurer), Alexander Mehran Jr. (board member), and Catharine Baker, Nelson Fialho, James Paxson and Christine Wente (advisory council members), to name a few.

Bowers, herself well-known in the area with 12 years as superintendent of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, was hired as the foundation's first permanent CEO and president in the summer of 2022.

She was quick to credit the efforts of the inaugural board, founding benefactors, "Sustainability Circle" donors, all-volunteer advisors, partner cities and Alameda County, and new board members for putting the organization on such a positive path in these early years.

"To date, 3VCF manages nearly \$3 million in total assets, and we've already awarded more than \$1 million in grants and donor-directed gifts," Bowers said. "Another \$2.7 million in innovative opioid settlement grants is slated to support nonprofits and community-based organizations in Alameda County tackling the opioid crisis. We believe this level of grantmaking can be transformational for our community."

Whether individual gifts, donor advised funds or endowments, 3VCF solicits contributions for Tri-Valley causes via its unrestricted 3VCF Fund or dedicated field-of-interest funds such as its Community Health Impact Grant Fund, the Dublin Education Alliance Fund, Innovation Tri-Valley Community Fund, Sunol Strong Community Fund or Partners for Local Press Fund.

The foundation also offers other support to charitable efforts, including serving as their fiscal agent, maintaining its nonprofit directory, leveraging its "Professional Advisors Network" and creating agency funds.

To bolster its financial position, 3VCF this month announced its board selected Fremont Bank as its new investment management services provider.

"Our collaboration with Fremont Bank reinforces our commitment to keeping local resources within our community to serve our region's needs," Sensiba said in the Jan. 6 press release. "Together, we can ensure that every dollar is managed with integrity and invested in our shared vision of a thriving, resilient region."

The foundation also recently launched its new "Nonprofits Now!" podcast — "an engaging platform for the community to learn firsthand about philanthropic efforts and for nonprofits to share their impactful work," Bowers told me.

The debut episode, available now, features Bowers interviewing 3VCF co-founder and board secretary Susan Houghton.

The third bit of organizational news just became public on Monday: 3VCF has stepped up to take over the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Fellowship Breakfast and Awards starting in 2026.

The event, created 25 years ago, was originally hosted by the now-defunct Tri-Valley YMCA before the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative grabbed the reins starting in 2018. There will be no fellowship breakfast this year for logistic reasons, and next year's format and scope are expected to look different with 3VCF at the helm.

In the meantime, Three Valleys is gearing up for its annual State of Giving Gathering on March 13 at which its leaders will unveil its latest community impact report and discuss the state of philanthropy in the Tri-Valley.

Bowers told me she also has her eye on cultivating the organization's "Next Gen Philanthropy" initiative in 2025, something that connects her two career paths well.

Visit [3vcf.org](http://3vcf.org) to learn more. ■

### About the Cover

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory celebrated the dedication ceremony Jan. 9 for its El Capitan supercomputer, measured as the fastest in the world. Photo courtesy LLNL.

Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXV, Number 51

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## What are your feelings about 'Dry January'?



**Andres Nieto**  
*Server and bartender*

On a personal level I like it because I feel it's better for people's health. It is for that reason that I don't drink myself, ever. I care about people and just want what's best for them.



**Bianca Reyes, with Carmel**  
*Support specialist*

I think it's wonderful, and I like how many pubs/bars, breweries and restaurants are offering non-alcoholic alternatives. I hope they will continue to offer them all year-round because I enjoy feeling included wherever I go, even if alcohol is not involved.



**Jeff Meier**  
*Business manager*

I think it's a very personal choice, and that if someone feels a need or desire to observe Dry January, that's just great. But as for me, I think it's fine to celebrate life and to include alcohol in that celebration. For me, it's usually beer or wine. Even in January.



**Kathy Meier**  
*Toxicology management specialist*

I feel that for some people, Dry January is a good challenge to their relationship with alcohol. But for some others, small to moderate, periodic amounts of alcohol likely are not harmful and "it is the dose that makes the poison."



**Craig Meier**  
*Financial adviser*

I think if someone is going to participate in Dry January, they should commit to doing it for the entire year. Because if they're going to do it all, they should do it all the way.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

**Have a Streetwise question?** Email [editor@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:editor@PleasantonWeekly.com)

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## DIGEST

### Bus Pass Drive

The Tri-Valley Bus Pass Drive, founded by resident Jacky Poulsen, is underway for its ninth year working to raise money for critical transportation for unhoused and other vulnerable residents to receive services or assistance in the region.

Poulsen and fellow coordinators Gail Cobe and Kim Rowe of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore work with local service organizations to distribute donated bus passes to their clients.

Asbury United Methodist Church handles the processing and accounting for the donations to the drive, which are tax deductible and go 100% to the purchase of bus passes with no overhead costs. Go to [asburylive.org/buspassprogram](http://asburylive.org/buspassprogram).

### Women's HOF

The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame is seeking nominations through Feb. 7 for its 2025 class of inductees.

Women or girls who live or work anywhere in the county are eligible in the categories of Business & Professions, Culture & Art, Community Service, Education, Emerging Leaders, Environmental, Health, Justice, Non-Traditional, Philanthropy, Science-Tech-Engineering and Sports & Athletics.

"This award is in recognition of a legacy of work — both in professional careers and/or volunteer service — that has made a positive impact in the lives of residents in Alameda County," organizers said.

Up to 12 recipients will be selected by a panel of judges, and the award ceremony is set for April 26 at The Club at Castlewood in Pleasanton. Submit nominees at [acgov.org/whof](http://acgov.org/whof).

### Committee spots

Pleasanton's new representative in the State Senate learned his committee assignments this month, courtesy of Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire (D-North Coast).

Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton), the former congressman who was elected to Sacramento on Nov. 5 to a district that includes most of the southern Tri-Valley out east into San Joaquin County, will chair the Revenue and Taxation Committee as well as serve on the Agriculture; Budget and Fiscal Review; Energy, Utilities and Communications; and Military and Veterans Affairs committees.

McNerney was also assigned to the Budget Subcommittee on Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy and the Joint Committee on Fairs Allocation and Classification. ■

## Council OKs plans to redevelop Barone's property

After years of planning, the longstanding downtown restaurant will be turned into housing, commercial buildings

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The iconic Barone's Restaurant in downtown Pleasanton will soon be gone for good after the City Council unanimously approved the design plans to redevelop the area into new housing and commercial space during its Jan. 9 meeting.

The project — which aims to build 14 new detached homes, two new commercial buildings with a plaza and parking — was

considered a positive addition to the downtown community by the entire council and a majority of the public who look forward to its potential to bring new families to the city as well as new businesses.

"There's certainly a significant amount of opportunity for our downtown to see some significant investment, which we haven't seen in a while," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said during the meeting.

After nearly 30 years, the Barone's Restaurant first shuttered

its doors in December 2022 due to various reasons, including the coronavirus pandemic. It shortly 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.

The Barone family, who own the land, originally announced their intent to shut down early in 2021.

Since the restaurant's closure, the project applicant — San

Jose-based Robson Homes LLC — had been working with staff to come up with a design for the space that not only kept the Barone family's home but also served as an amenity to the downtown's economic vitality.

After coming up with an appropriate design and outlining how the commercial spaces are to be used, the Planning Commission approved the design plans and

See **BARONE'S** on Page 10



The Pleasanton Police Department's new chief of Police, Tracy Avelar, takes the oath of office during her swearing-in ceremony on Jan. 8 at the Veterans Memorial Hall.

PHOTO BY CHUCK DECKERT / COURTESY CITY OF PLEASANTON

## Pleasanton PD swears in first female chief

Tracy Avelar says she aims to 'maintain and enhance' tradition of excellence in Pleasanton

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton's new Chief of Police Tracy Avelar was sworn in during a ceremony last Wednesday, officially making her the city's first ever

permanent female police chief.

Pleasanton Police Department spokesperson Teri Yan told the Weekly that Avelar took her oath of office at the Veterans Memorial Hall on Jan. 8 in

front of approximately 150 attendees including the chief's family, friends, colleagues, and representatives from

See **CHIEF AVELAR** on Page 8

## Council approves budget committee

Engagement plan set in motion after more debate

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

After some back and forth, the Pleasanton City Council eventually compromised on how the city will develop its two-year budget during its meeting last week by approving two budget-related items — a budget development plan and a Budget Advisory Committee (BAC).

Both items were approved by the council despite some debate that was eventually resolved after a council majority agreed to an alternate motion that moved the two items forward with the additions of an extra budget workshop and independent review of the city's 10-year financial forecast.

"Compromise is happening right now on this dais, and I really do appreciate it," Mayor Jack Balch said during the Jan. 9 meeting.

Councilmember Julie Testa was the sole dissenting voice when it came to the new budget development plan vote, however she did vote yes — along with the rest of the council — to form the BAC and appoint 11 members to the new committee.

Testa had originally motioned to approve staff's original recommendation, which did not include one additional workshop and

See **BUDGET** on Page 11

# Kohl's store in Pleasanton shuttering by spring

Among 27 'underperforming' locations on national closure list; latest retailer to exit Metro 580

By JEREMY WALSH

The Kohl's department store that has been a centerpiece of the Metro 580 shopping center in Pleasanton for more than two decades is set to close by April, the retailer announced last week alongside a series of real estate downsizing moves planned for 2025.

The Pleasanton location at 4525 Rosewood Drive is among 27 "underperforming" stores on the closure list nationwide, along with four others in the Bay Area, according to corporate officials. Kohl's becomes the latest scheduled departure from Metro 580, which is losing Party City after that company confirmed last month it would be going out of business.

"We always take these decisions very seriously," Kohl's CEO Tom Kingsbury said in a press release Jan. 9. "As we continue to build on our long-term growth strategy, it is important that we also take difficult but necessary actions to support the health and future of our business for our customers and our teams."

Kohl's representatives said all affected employees have been notified and "offered a competitive severance package or the ability to apply to other open roles at Kohl's".

The Pleasanton store, which opened in the fall of 2004, is among 10 stores in California on the closure list, including one each in the cities of Fremont, Mountain View, Napa and San Rafael. The company also announced it would shutter its San Bernardino E-commerce Fulfillment Center when the lease lapses in May.

The Kohl's on Las Positas Road in Livermore remains in operation.

Losing the clothing retailer is the latest blow for Metro 580, located just off the same-numbered interstate highway at the Hacienda Drive interchange. The shopping center, which is anchored by a Walmart store, will see its Party City close soon too and the commercial space next door has been vacant since Orchard Supply Hardware shuttered in 2018.

The Metro 580 property is featured on the city of Pleasanton's housing site inventory list in its current eight-year



CHUCK DECKERT

The Kohl's store in the Metro 580 shopping center in Pleasanton is set to close by April 2025, the company announced early in the new year.

Housing Element, as adopted by the City Council in 2023, but no redevelopment application from the owner has come forward yet.

"The city does not have any definitive plans from Brixmor on the disposition of the Metro 580 site, but has continued to have ongoing dialog

with their team as they consider their options for the site," city communications manager Heather Tiernan told the Weekly on Friday. ■

## Livermore commission endorses casino expansion

Operational changes, citywide cardroom rules will head to council for approval

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Planning Commission unanimously supported an operational and parking expansion for Parkwest Casino 580 as well as changes to the city's cardroom ordinances.

Among the allowances Parkwest Casino 580 requested

were increasing the number of its cardroom tables from a population-based value to 16 tables, forgoing nine-hour long closures on Mondays for 24/7 operations, increasing the maximum betting limit from \$200 to \$1000, permission for 10-person backline betting, and permission to play new card games — including Pai

Gow with tiles — not prohibited by state law.

Additionally, the commission supported construction of a 230-space surface parking lot on vacant land east of the casino. Bike parking would be added outside the casino and the applicant would be responsible for restriping traffic lanes and creating a Class IV bike lane with a landscaped buffer along North Canyons Parkway.

The commissioners also backed changes to the municipal code and planning documents required for Parkwest Casino 580 to take on the adjusted operations. These proposed citywide

changes include increasing allowable hours of operation, increasing the maximum bet limit, permitting limited backline betting, permitting the play of new card games not prohibited by state law, modifying tournament noticing requirements, modifying the number of cardroom licenses permitted per person and additional miscellaneous amendments made for clarification, according to the staff report.

These amendments to the city code would not immediately apply to Livermore Casino, at 3571 First St., the only other cardroom in the city. Instead, Livermore Casino

would need to apply for a new or amended development agreement or conditional use permit, which would be subject to a separate environmental review and discretionary approval.

Following the commission's positive recommendation, the City Council will consider the Parkwest Casino 580 requests as well as the citywide changes.

If approved by council, the amendments would also require approval from groups including the Bureau of Gambling Control, the Gambling Control

See **CASINO** on Page 11

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JUDE STRZEMP

Parkwest Casino 580 received a positive recommendation from the Livermore Planning Commission for its operational and parking expansion proposal.



  
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# Harvest Park earns statewide award for special education program

District says school has transformed the program to better serve students

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The California School Board Association awarded Harvest Park Middle School last month with the 2024 Golden Bell Award for the school's innovative and inclusive work regarding special education.

According to a Dec. 9 press release from the Pleasanton Unified School District, the CSBA's prestigious award recognizes the middle school's "three-year journey in transforming its special education programming to foster equity, inclusion and academic success for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)."

"When a student comes to Harvest Park, we want them to feel safe and inspired, which requires trust. Our families have to believe that we are advocating for them from a position of high expectations and care," Harvest Park

Principal Russell Campisi said in the press release. "This entails that more students, who receive special education services and support, would be in general education settings at higher rates, experience improved academic outcomes, and have greater connectivity to students and staff."

Over the past few years, Harvest Park has been working on improving access to general education for students with special needs, according to the district, which has led to better opportunities for students to fulfill their academic requirements as they transition to high school.

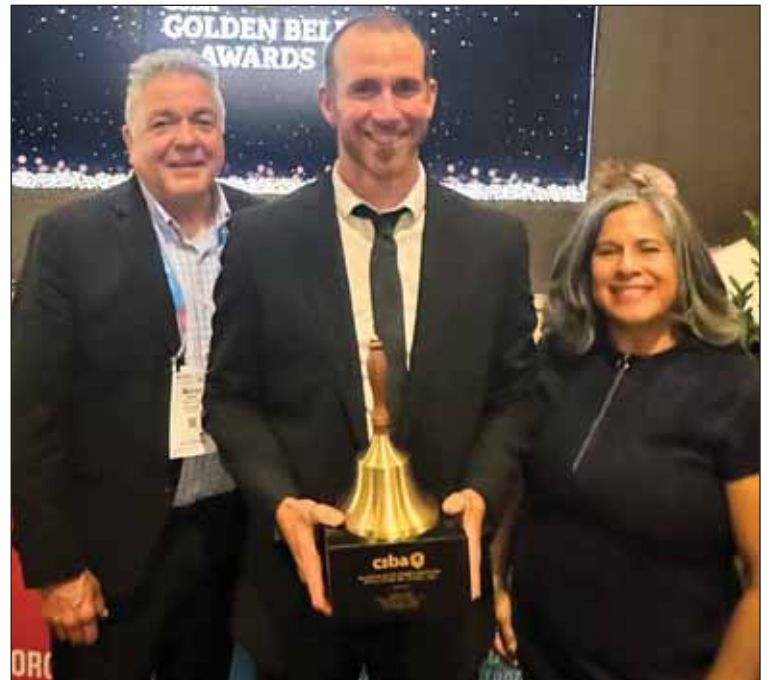
As of 2024 nearly 90% of sixth grade students with IEPs at Harvest Park participate in general education settings for the majority of their day — they also have access to electives and extracurricular activities. This achievement, according

to the district, has set the stage for students' long-term success.

"We are incredibly proud of our entire Harvest Park community for their dedication and hard work that led to this statewide honor," Interim Superintendent Maurice Ghysels said. "Fostering a culture and learning environments where each of our students belongs with equal access to opportunity is paramount to PUSD and we are grateful to Harvest Park for their leadership in making this possible."

Apart from the staff and families who played an integral role in the success of the special education program at Harvest Park, the district also said there were other improvements that helped. Those included renovated special day classrooms, advanced professional development for staff and personalized support for students.

"The steps taken by the district



PUSD

From left: Interim Superintendent Maurice Ghysels, Harvest Park Middle School Principal Russell Campisi and Special Education Program Supervisor Anaite Letona receive the 2024 California School Board Association's Golden Bell Award.

and Harvest Park Middle School to improve the learning and experience of our Special Education students are critical to the overall

health and success of PUSD," said Ahmad Sheikholeslami, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services. ■



COURTESY LETICIA HYDE

Late former Alameda County Superior Court judge Ron Hyde.

## Former Alameda County judge Ron Hyde dies

Was known for his time with Superior Court and his volunteer work in Pleasanton

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Former Alameda County judge and longtime Pleasanton community member Ron Hyde died from Covid-19 earlier this month. He was 81.

"My husband lived to serve his neighbor," Leticia Hyde, the late judge's wife of over 20 years, said in a Spanish-language interview with the Weekly, translated into English. "He shared his love, knowledge, time, money and effort for our community and beyond."

Hyde was born on June 3, 1943 in Portland, Oregon, where he grew up playing golf, going camping with his family and even learned how to drive his father's large truck by the age of 9, his widow said.

He also grew up loving flowers — specifically roses — which might have been the reason why he took up gardening later in life.

Leticia Hyde first met her husband in 2002 during one of the

annual Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association (PTSCA) trips to Tulancingo, Mexico. The two eventually got married and settled down in Pleasanton.

"Our love, which God allowed us for 22 years here on earth and now in heaven, was very beautiful," she said.

Ron Hyde had been an active member of the association since the '80s and had even served as president at one point. However, according to a post from the association, he had been absent from more recent events due to health issues that he was battling for the past four years.

"It is with sadness that we inform you of the death of our member and past association president, retired Judge Ron Hyde," the association's post stated. "Ron was a great supporter of our Sister City Association and an active member."

The post stated that Hyde died on Jan. 7 at 3 a.m.

Apart from his years of volunteering, Hyde was mostly known for his time as an Alameda County Superior Court judge.

However, that period of his life came with some controversy due to his removal from the bench.

According to a Sept. 26, 2003 article by the Weekly, the Commission on Judicial Performance at the time stripped Hyde from his role as judge due to past disciplinary issues, his "lack of candor" and other concerns regarding integrity.

Leticia Hyde said she didn't "understand the dismissal as a judge" and instead focused on the rest of his life which included nonprofit work and other community volunteer work.

At one point in 2012, Hyde stepped into the role as chief executive officer and president of the defunct Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

Leticia Hyde also pointed to

her husband's contributions to the Pleasanton Partnerships In Education Foundation which she said he described as the "the root of the wealth of humanity," and to his work with East Bay Stand Down, an organization that helps veterans without homes get the resources they need.

She also said one thing he especially liked to do for the community was host the Kids in Court program, which was when he went to elementary schools and taught kids about the court system.

"Something he also loved was giving lessons in court to fifth grade children to instill good values in them so that they would never do things that would lead them to lose their freedom and be treated like criminals and delinquents," she said.

Memorial services for the late judge have not been announced as details are still being finalized, according to Leticia Hyde. ■

## CHIEF AVELAR

Continued from Page 5

various California law enforcement agencies.

"It is truly an honor to serve as the first female chief of the city of Pleasanton's Police Department, but this appointment is about the entire organization and the incredible and important work that is done everyday," Avelar said in a statement to the Weekly on Jan. 13.

Avelar, will be the permanent replacement for former chief David Swing, who left the agency back in April in order to take a new job at the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority. She will be directly succeeding Gina Anderson, Newark's former police chief, who has been PPD's interim leader since May.

The city first announced the news of hiring the former Foster City Police Department chief back in late November. Her first official day on the job was Dec. 9.

Avelar first joined the Foster City Police Department in 2002 and moved her way up the ranks to become the first female lieutenant, captain and police chief in that city's history.

During her time there, she oversaw various departments such as youth services, crime prevention, hiring and other day-to-day operations. She also managed other programs such as field training, SWAT and traffic enforcement and while she was captain, she was responsible for administrative and

operational divisions, overseeing dispatch, records, investigations and budget preparation.

Apart from bringing more than 20 years of law enforcement experience, Yan said Avelar is currently the president of the California Police Chiefs Association and has also served on the San Mateo County Police Chiefs and Sheriff Executive Board.

She holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice management and a master's degree in homeland security from the Naval

Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

"(The) Pleasanton Police Department has built a stellar reputation for professionalism, innovation and a deep commitment to the community, which I now have the honor of witnessing firsthand," Avelar said in a statement to the Weekly. "My role will be to maintain and enhance that tradition of excellence. I truly believe when an organization is healthy and happy internally, our team thrives and our city thrives." ■

# DeSaulnier introduces new mental health legislation

Congressman seeking bipartisan support for 'Mental Health Matters Act'

By JEANITA LYMAN

Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) has reintroduced proposed mental health legislation that he says has been decades in the making and is urging his colleagues in Congress to rally behind as mental health struggles throughout the country have continued to abound in the years since it first became a top priority for him.

DeSaulnier, whose district includes much of the Tri-Valley, reintroduced the "Mental Health Matters Act" on the last day of the previous Congress on Jan. 3, meaning it will need to be reintroduced once again in the current Congress in order to move forward, according to a spokesperson from his office. It was initially introduced in 2022, then passed with a vote of 220 to 205.

"Mental health care is health care, and with one in five adults and one in six children experiencing mental illness each year, it's imperative we take bold, comprehensive action to get quality support and resources to the millions of Americans in need," DeSaulnier said in a press release

on Jan. 3. "Having lost my dad to suicide, I am honored to introduce legislation to help other families by employing evidence-based resources to tackle the mental health crisis plaguing this country."

DeSaulnier's father Edward — who was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Massachusetts Senate from 1949 to 1958 — died by suicide in 1989 after a years-long battle with alcohol and gambling addictions, advocating for the mitigation of alcoholism and other substance abuse issues following his time in office.

DeSaulnier told Danville/SanRamon that the loss of his father — and the need for widespread legislation and societal support for mental health and substance abuse issues — helped shape the priorities for his own political career, which began two years later when he was elected to the Concord City Council in 1991, having served on the city's Planning Commission starting in 1988.

"It led me to an interest when I was in college and when I got into elected office, particularly at

the county, because the counties have the behavioral health division," said DeSaulnier, who served on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors from 1994 to 2006.

"I've always had an interest in pursuing policies, including financial support for government agencies and non-government agencies, both on the research side and the dependence on the research for providers," he continued. "This is a culmination of 40 years of interest in behavioral health."

Despite ongoing advocacy from DeSaulnier and others seeking to address mental health and substance abuse over the years, the current outlook remains grim, and increasingly so for younger generations, according to statistics provided by his office.

Suicide is currently the second leading cause of death between the ages of 10 and 24, and the 12th leading cause of death overall in the United States. Last year, 40% of students reported "persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness," with more than 20% seriously considering suicide and 9% attempting it — yet 80% of young people requiring

mental healthcare don't have access to it.

Those requiring mental health services account for more than half of students statewide, according to a 2022 report from the ACLU, with "decades of underinvestment" resulting in schools throughout the state having an average of one social worker for every 6,000 students, and the third highest ratio of students to school counselors in the nation.

DeSaulnier added that his ongoing work with local school districts has made the increasing mental health issues all the more tangible to him in recent years, with the Mental Health Matters Act seeking to improve and expand mental health and special needs support to school districts throughout the country.

"I do a lot of outreach in the school districts in particular, and what I hear regularly, particularly in the last 20 years, is both from students, and administrators and from teachers that they need more counselors and they need more training, so the Mental Health Matters act is a comprehensive response to what

I think the country has to look at with some real sense of urgency," DeSaulnier said.

The next steps for the bill on his end, DeSaulnier said, was to help garner increased support and awareness for it, and to find "others who have an open mind about this, both Republican and Democrat."

Although he acknowledged that bipartisan support for anything could be increasingly difficult in the current and future political climates, DeSaulnier said he would continue pushing for the bill to be put into law, and that he remained optimistic.

"I'm realistic, but I think we have to do it, and I think as somebody who has a background on this, it's a passion for me," DeSaulnier said.

The major challenge facing the proposed bill or any other widespread mental health care legislation, DeSaulnier said, is a cultural one.

"I think we tend to think that if people have a weakness, if they have a behavioral health problem, they should just pull themselves up by their bootstraps, and we know that's not accurate," DeSaulnier said. ■

## Livermore approves partial name change of East Vallecitos Road

Four residences to be given new addresses for easier finding during emergencies, deliveries

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore City Council unanimously agreed to rename an approximately one-mile portion of East Vallecitos Road to East Vineyard Avenue to improve emergency and delivery services to residents living on the street.

The new name was chosen as a logical continuation from East Vineyard Avenue, according to Jennifer Ackerman, associate planner for the city of Livermore. The council voted on the name change during its Jan. 13 regular meeting.

As a result of the council's decision, four residences will undergo an address change. Though the road will remain privately maintained.

"Residents have noted that emergency and routine delivery services have difficulty finding these homes along this road," Ackerman said. "The proposed change will help improve this situation."

The item came before council following the Livermore Planning Commission's unanimous support of the renaming on Nov. 19, 2024.

Afterward, city staff removed one of the five residences recommended by the commission as impacted by the name change because

that one parcel does not have access to the road being changed to East Vineyard Avenue, according to the city staff report.

The new street name and address changes will take effect once the city notifies entities including USPS, UPS, Zone 7 Water Agency, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, Alameda County Fire Department, Registrar of Voters, Comcast, PG&E, AT&T, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District and Livermore Sanitation, according to staff. The city intends to send these notifications Jan. 24.

Following the city's contact of outside agencies, property owners must notify their business and personal contacts that their address has changed.

Outside of the city limits in Alameda County's jurisdiction, two properties along the road were already identified with East Vineyard addresses.

There were no public comments regarding the renaming of the street during Monday's meeting, but all letters to the council — including one from Kurtis Dickey, battalion chief of training at the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department — expressed support for the renaming.

Councilmember Steven Dunbar supported the proposal and noted his previous support of it as a former commissioner.

As part of the consent calendar — which includes items considered routine in nature and typically passed by a single vote — Livermore Valley Arts CFO Reanna Bradford reported to the council the organization's most productive fiscal year since opening the Bankhead in 2007 after Councilmember Ben

Barrientos requested more information about the organization's annual report for fiscal year 2023-24.

"It's not just about the people in the seats, the arts create a ripple-effect that touches everyone in the city," Bradford said.

During the 2023-24 fiscal year, 88,000 people attended programs by LVA including the Bankhead Presents series, free community events, art camps, workshops and the Uncle Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead, Bradford said. That equals a 22% increase in attendance over the last fiscal year.

LVA also earned a record-setting \$2.2 million over the year with an operating reserve of \$1.2 million.

"I certainly appreciate the work that you continue to do to enrich the community. So thank you very

much," Marchand said.

Also as part of its consent calendar, the council agreed to increase its contract agreement with Pangea Environmental Services, Inc. for additional environmental support services for remediation activities associated with Livermore Village Remediation Project from a maximum of \$1,165,000 to \$1,716,500, extending the term to Dec. 31, 2028.

The goal of the project is to clean up after historical activities that contaminated surface soils with heavy metals and hydrocarbons and contaminated deeper soil, soil vapor, and groundwater with organic chemicals, according to the report.

The work is concentrated in the area bounded by First Street, L Street, Railroad Avenue and Livermore Avenue. ■



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# EBRPD simplifies parking costs, eliminates dog fees

Changes aim to encourage more visits to East Bay Regional Parks

By Bay City News Service

Parking costs have been simplified, and dog fees have been eliminated to encourage visits to East Bay Regional Parks, the park district said last week.

The updated fees include a flat \$5 parking charge where kiosks are present, according to the park

district. Previously, parking cost \$3 to \$6, depending on the park.

The East Bay Regional Park District in Alameda and Contra Costa counties is the largest regional park system in the U.S., drawing an estimated 30 million visits a year, according to the district.

The new parking fee doesn't

apply to Del Valle Regional Park on weekends and holidays April through Labor Day, when there is a flat \$10 entrance fee on peak days that covers parking and other charges, the district said in a press release.

Dog fees, formerly \$2, have been removed for 2025. Dogs are required to be on leash in designated

areas, including trailheads, parking lots, paved trails, and picnic areas. Dogs must also be on leash around horses and in parks where cattle are present.

A dog permit is still required to walk more than three dogs at a time. Professional dog walkers are required to obtain a permit regardless of how many dogs they

walk at one time.

Charges have also been updated for swimming fees, day camp fees, special event fees, concessionaire fees, parking citation penalties, and vehicle release fees, according to the park district.

The fees streamline pricing and better reflect the cost of providing services, the district said. ■

## BARONE'S

Continued from Page 5

documents on Oct. 23, 2024.

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 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.

According to Planning and Permit Center Manager Melinda Denis, the new homes will be located behind the commercial structures and the Barone's family home and there will be no net loss of commercial square footage.

"The site plan and project, as proposed, provides adequate transition from commercial to residential," Denis said during the Jan. 9 meeting.

Denis also said there will be a single primary access point from St. John street, there will be adequate internal vehicle and pedestrian circulation and there will be no development taking place within the designated open space

areas along the Arroyo Valle.

"This project will uphold Pleasanton's reputation as a wonderful place to live, raise a family, work and play," Robson Homes project manager Richard Yee told the dais.

"We've created a well designed, mixed-use project that will activate St. John's commercial connection to the downtown and provide new housing that will support downtown business."

The dais was originally slated to vote on the item on Dec. 17 but it was continued after several additional questions were raised.

Those concerns have since been addressed in a Jan. 2 memorandum from Beaudin and community development director Ellen Clark.

In the memorandum, several topics are addressed but one of the main issues that also came up during the meeting was tree removal and preservation, which had been raised as a concern in a recent online petition.

According to a Change.org petition that was created on Oct. 24 — the day after the Planning Commission approved the project — over a thousand residents called for the city to reconsider the removal of 34 heritage-size 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."

A handful of people who live near the Barone's property voiced their concerns about the project's plans to remove trees during last week's meeting.

After a lengthy discussion with the city's Landscape Architect Matt Gruber, Councilmember Julie Testa told the group who were advocating to save the trees that while she hates the idea of taking down trees at all, she hopes people will take comfort in knowing that not all the trees will be cut down at the site.

"It breaks my heart to take out any trees and to take out this many, absolutely breaks my heart," Testa said. "I don't feel that replanting elsewhere mitigates taking out a tree, it feels very personal to me also."

Pleasanton resident Nadine Moore is one of the residents who lives in the St. John neighborhood who spoke up during the meeting.

She started off by saying that she was not opposed to the redevelopment plans, but that she was opposed to cutting down heritage trees — specifically the large Valley Oak tree on the west side property line of 493 Saint John St. "To cut down a heritage tree, is to cut down a silent sentinel of our social memory and to remove the roots of our community's history," Moore said.

However, staff clarified that they did not use the term heritage trees — which are protected — in their report to the council. Instead, the

report stated 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."

Yee said they did reach out to the city's arborist about moving the large oak tree and that if they could, the developers would have moved it.

Gruber said as someone who cares a lot about trees, he made sure to really look at the viability of keeping as many trees on the property as possible. However, he said keeping all of the trees and developing housing was just not possible.

Gruber did note that one positive spin is that the developer is paying \$150,000 to the city's forestry fund, which in turn will fund the planting of a lot of smaller to medium-sized trees throughout the city.

Some other criticism that came out of the Jan. 9 meeting was from Councilmember Craig Eicher who said that while he believes the project was well thought out, he would have wanted to see higher density. Testa also pointed out that the homes will not be affordable due to the developer paying a \$1.2 million in-lieu fee in order to avoid building affordable housing.

The council also wanted to make sure that the commercial buildings are occupied within the first six months after the project is complete, which is one of the reasons why staff made sure the commercial building permits a variety of businesses including restaurants, retail and breweries.

Initially, offices were not going to be permitted in the buildings; however, after some discussion the council decided to amend the staff recommendation to allow for office use if the commercial space is not occupied within those first six months.

"I just want to make sure that we are revitalizing our downtown with patrons," Mayor Jack Balch said. ■



SCREENSHOT FROM JAN. 9 CITY STAFF REPORT

An early rendering of the two single-story commercial buildings planned for the Barone's property redevelopment. According to the developer, the look was inspired by Livermore's Blacksmith Square design.

## TAKE US ALONG



**A cup at the source:** W. Ron Sutton brought the Weekly along to read while enjoying a cup of joe at the 2023 Kona Coffee Cultural Festival in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. A well-known Pleasanton resident, Sutton is being honored this month with a History Maker Award from the Museum on Main and is one of the key organizers behind this Saturday's Make A Difference for Pleasanton Festival.

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.

## CASINO

Continued from Page 6

Commission — which will hold its own hearing — and finally the Livermore Police Department.

The proposal also includes community benefits, which Commissioner Jacob Anderson pointed out as a positive component of the plans.

“I am typically not a fan of cardrooms. I think that they’re typically a car-centric use, where usually people have to arrive to a specific spot to utilize them. And then typically the goal of cardrooms is to keep the patrons in the card rooms. So therefore, ancillary businesses typically do not benefit from that travel,” Anderson said.

“The community benefit package that we see in this are quite substantial. And I believe that, that outweighs the negatives that we would see from the car-centric uses. And on top of that the

additional parking, I think, is absolutely necessary for a use like this,” he added.

One benefit is an increase to the monthly fee paid to the city per card table from \$1,900 per table for 10 tables to \$4,800 per table for 16 tables.

Revenue generated from the table fee would be used to fund future city staff positions in the police and community development departments, city staff said.

The second public benefit would be an applicant contribution of \$60,000 toward the purchase and installation of traffic cameras as well as \$29,000 toward the purchase and installation of license plate readers. Upkeep of the cameras and readers would be funded by the table fee revenue.

As for parking, the additional spots would alleviate the unmet parking demand at the cardroom — some patrons currently park along Doolan Road and Collier Canyon Road to access the casino.

Staff determined that an additional 230 spots would meet demand, even with the additional card tables. Doolan Road and Collier Canyon Road would become no parking zones.

The parking expansion also aligned with current code, Commissioner Daniel Leary said. Stall sizes are in abundance and there are two pedestrian links whereas only one is required.

He also said he expects the stormwater control requirements will be met as well as the necessary trees and decorative elements along the walkway to the casino’s front door.

On the subject of increasing the allowable tables at Parkwest Casino 580, Commissioner Yolanda Fintschenko said, “The setting of an absolute limit, and in addition to being simpler because populations fluctuate, also makes our law fall into better compliance with the gambling authority because it removes the

opportunity for automatic increase which would occur based on population change.”

Extended business hours and number of tables doesn’t change the nature of the facility, Leary added. “But the one thing that was eye-popping was the gambling limit of \$200 to \$1,000. That seems high to me,” he said.

To Leary, the current limit of \$200 allows the business to function well and raising that limit to \$1,000 might cause issues for someone who has a gambling problem.

Originally, Parkwest Casino 580 requested permission for unlimited wagers, but staff declined.

Staff felt like it was appropriate to increase the betting limit, but not to an unlimited value, staff said.

The sole public commenter named Constance Kopps expressed concern over potential vagrancy and public safety risks resulting from the casino.

In response to safety concerns, Livermore Police Capt. Jason Boberg said, “Most of the crime that kind of centers around Casino operations tends to be follow-home crime.”

He added, “It’s highly unusual they get that crime at the facility. That’s because (those who commit crimes) know, like a bank, that there’s a certain level of camera and safety and security guards and police response.”

Following the commission’s unanimous support for the Parkwest Casino 580 requests and citywide amendments to its cardroom regulations, the commission elected Fintschenko as its new 2025 chairperson and Tracy Kronzak as vice chairperson.

The Livermore Planning Commission is looking to fill a current vacancy and a future vacancy. Applications are available on the city of Livermore website. Recruitment closes Jan. 27 at 5 p.m. ■

## BUDGET

Continued from Page 5

independent peer review of the forecast, but her motion failed to get a second.

Staff first presented the two-year “Budget Engagement Plan” and the BAC during the Dec. 17 meeting in which the council had a lengthy discussion that eventually ended with the council delaying the two items until its following meeting for a few reasons.

The plan itself provides a detailed process for 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.

During last month’s discussion, some members of the council did not agree with certain aspects of the plan including the pop-up events, which staff wanted to hold at places like the farmers market, and using a statistically valid survey tool — some councilmembers did not think the survey would fully capture the most input from residents.

Balch also did not fully agree with the idea of forming the BAC and instead asked staff to return with different alternatives on Jan. 9 — one of which was substituting the BAC with an ad hoc committee that he voluntarily wanted to be a part of along with Councilmember Matt Gaidos.

The idea behind the ad hoc was to have two councilmembers further look into various aspects of how the budget is formed, look at city’s fiscal policies in detail and 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.

While staff did return with more

information on such an ad hoc committee and how that would look like within the context of the engagement plan, their recommendation instead doubled down on maintaining the BAC.

Deputy city manager Alexa Jeffress told the council that while staff included the ad hoc committee as an alternative in the engagement plan, she pointed to various different reasons why such a committee wouldn’t be the best route to take.

One main reason against the ad hoc committee — which several residents supported during public comments — was allocation of staff resources. According to the staff agenda report, there is not enough time to go through the process of creating the ad hoc; creating such a committee would redirect resources away from budget development; and those ad hoc meetings could have taken place during negotiation meetings with certain labor groups.

“Staff resources and timing are limited so we want to make sure that we are focusing the resources and the limited time where we think they can be most feasibly applied and reasonable,” Jeffress said.

That’s why instead, staff suggested going with a slightly altered recommendation for the “Budget Engagement Plan” from the Dec. 17 recommendation.

Staff’s new direction was to remove the pop-up events and the use of a survey — although staff mentioned that they still plan on engaging with folks in some way during the farmers market — and instead add two new workshops where the council as a whole could participate in further budget discussions.

The council had already participated in one of the two workshops an hour and a half prior to the start of the regular meeting on Jan. 9 and had another scheduled workshop

in March as part of the original staff recommendation for the engagement plan.

While there were no disagreements on most of the plan, the council was divided over the formation of the BAC.

According to staff, the BAC is made up of 11 members who will help with providing, “insights and recommendations on community priorities and strategies for achieving a balanced budget.”

Each councilmember, including the mayor, chose one person to be on the committee — Nibert pointed out during the meeting that those representatives didn’t have to be from the councilmembers’ districts — as well as representatives from local unions and representatives from other city stakeholders.

City Manager Gerry Beaudin was the only one who was able to choose two members. After getting some criticism from a few residents who thought he should have only one choice and that Balch should have had two, the mayor also suggested reducing one member choice for Beaudin.

However, that motion failed and all 11 representatives were appointed after the council established the BAC following the approval of the engagement plan.

Testa and Vice Mayor Jeff Nibert both thought the BAC was the obvious choice if the city wanted the best representation during these upcoming budget discussions.

“I think it’s essential ... to have public input and engagement,” Nibert said.

He said the BAC would be the best way for community member representatives to advise the council on how these future budget decisions could affect the greater public.

Testa said she even thought that

during the last election campaign, she had heard candidates like Balch, as well as members of the community, tout the idea of having something like the BAC and that the city should have formed such a committee much sooner.

“I know it’s what I heard, repeatedly, asked for,” Testa said.

Before establishing the BAC in that separate item, Balch still wanted the city to at least address the city’s financial forecast, which Balch said he had concerns with — with or without the ad hoc committee. He said the city needs to rebuild trust and one of the main ways to do so is to look further into how the city comes up with these financial assumptions that are so integral to how the city makes decisions on developing its budget.

“The reality is that our forecast forecasted a \$4,112 surplus for ... 2023-24 and we ended up with approximately a \$10 million surplus,” Balch said. “So given year one is so egregiously off, I have a difficult time saying that I can vote for a budget relying on outlying years without looking at what assumptions were off.”

However, Beaudin clarified that the city did know about the surplus and that the only reason it is so high is because the city “hit the brakes on spending.”

“There’s a long list of reasons why we had more money at the end and it had nothing to do with a projection,” Beaudin said.

That’s why later in the discussion, after Testa’s motion to support staff’s original recommendation, Councilmember Craig Eicher asked the dais for a compromise which still included an ad hoc committee to dive deeper into the 10-year financial forecast on top of staff’s original recommendation of moving forward with the engagement

plan and the BAC formation.

However, Beaudin offered a counter recommendation to have a third party provide a peer-reviewed assessment of the 10-year financial analysis that has been done to date and further analysis on the financial forecast assumptions, which ended up being enough for Balch.

“The goal of us tonight ... is how do we want to develop our budget,” Balch said. “My intent with the independent review is to build trust.”

“We have a divided community,” he added. “An independent, third party would be very beneficial to this city.”

Everyone except Testa agreed to having an independent peer review of the city’s financial forecast outside of the budget engagement plan as a compromise to approving the engagement plan.

In addition to a town hall meeting where residents can interact with staff and provide face-to-face input regarding the budget, the plan will also include hosting an additional budget workshop in February, on top of the originally scheduled budget workshop in March.

The engagement plan will also maintain the use of an online engagement tool and the BAC as staff work through developing the budget during these next few months.

According to assistant city manager Pamela Ott, the BAC — which the council unanimously agreed to form — will still meet three times between now and March and that while it might seem like a lot of work and information squished into a small timeframe, the committee will be an “opportunity to bring more of our residents into this discussion.”

“This is really that on-ramp to deeper community engagement and understanding of the city’s financial position,” Ott said. ■

# Holiday Fund

## Thank you for your generous donations to the Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund

We have now reached the conclusion of the 2024-25 Pleasanton Weekly Holiday Fund. Over the course of the campaign, 154 donors have contributed \$74,661 to the fund. All of the money raised during the Holiday Fund will be split among ten nonprofit beneficiaries. This final list of contributors includes donations received and reported on or before Jan. 14, 2025.

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Open Heart Kitchen's Community Meal service provides hot, well-balanced meals every weekday.



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Charlie the kitten finds a forever home after a stay at the Valley Humane Society shelter.



CULINARY ANGELS

Volunteers pack nutritious, organic meals for Culinary Angels clients.



AXIS

Axis Community Health is the only community health center in the Tri-Valley.

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This year's Holiday Fund recipients that will share in fund contributions are:



**Axis Community Health** is the Tri-Valley's sole provider of medical and mental health services for individuals and families who have a low income or who are uninsured. It serves more than 14,000 members of our community.

**CityServe of the Tri-Valley** supports the community by caring for people in crisis, coordinating resources between the faith-based community, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and government agencies and connecting volunteers in the community to nonprofits.

**Culinary Angels** is a volunteer-driven organization that provides organic, nutrient-rich meals and nutrition education to cancer patients and their caregivers in the Tri-Valley.

**Goodness Village** is a proactive housing program with a tiny-home community in Livermore, along with 24-hour, wraparound supportive services to those who have been unsheltered for a significant amount of time.

**Open Heart Kitchen** is the largest hot meal program of its kind in the Tri-Valley feeding the hungry every weekday at multiple locations.

**Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE)** has provided critical supplemental funding to benefit all 14,500 students at all 15 Pleasanton public schools for more than 30 years with the mission to enhance learning experiences for students.

**Sunflower Hill** provides places and spaces where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) live, learn, work, and thrive in the greater community. The group develops residential communities and programming for individuals with I/DD.

**Tri-Valley Haven** supports survivors of domestic and sexual violence, as well as residents and families who are low-income or homeless, through its shelter, counseling and other services.

**Tri-Valley REACH** provides safe, quality and affordable living environments where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) may live independently.

**Valley Humane Society** rescues and rehabilitates companion animals, champions responsible caretaking, shares pets' soothing affections with people in need of comfort, and supports and preserves existing pet-guardian relationships.

# THE FASTEST IN THE WORLD



An inside  
look at  
Livermore  
Lab's lauded  
El Capitan  
supercomputer

By JUDE STRZEMP

The planet's fastest supercomputer, El Capitan, located at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, received a warm welcome from National Nuclear Security Administration officials and industry partners at a grand dedication ceremony this month.

The \$600 million system is NNSA's first exascale supercomputer and will be used to support its advanced simulation and computing program, which works to predict the behavior of nuclear weapons through comprehensive, science-based simulations, according to the LLNL website.

Operating at a peak performance of 2.79 exaFLOPs or 2.79 quintillion calculations per second, El Capitan has equal processing power to one million of today's fastest smartphones simultaneously working on a calculation.

In effect, researchers from across the Department of Energy's NNSA labs — LLNL, and Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories — will have unprecedented modeling and simulation abilities to ensure the safety, security and reliability of the nation's nuclear deterrent without underground nuclear testing.

Since going online in 2024, the system is currently undergoing usability testing and is expected for full deployment as a classified supercomputer in March 2025.

Also spotlighted at the Jan. 9 ceremony was El Capitan's unclassified, companion system Tuolumne, which is set for open science research like climate and earthquake modeling, advanced manufacturing, energy sustainability and computational biology.

"What we will do with this machine will far outserve anything we imagine today," LLNL Director Kim Budil said of El Capitan.

The computing power El Capitan offers is unprecedented, lab officials repeated at the dedication event.

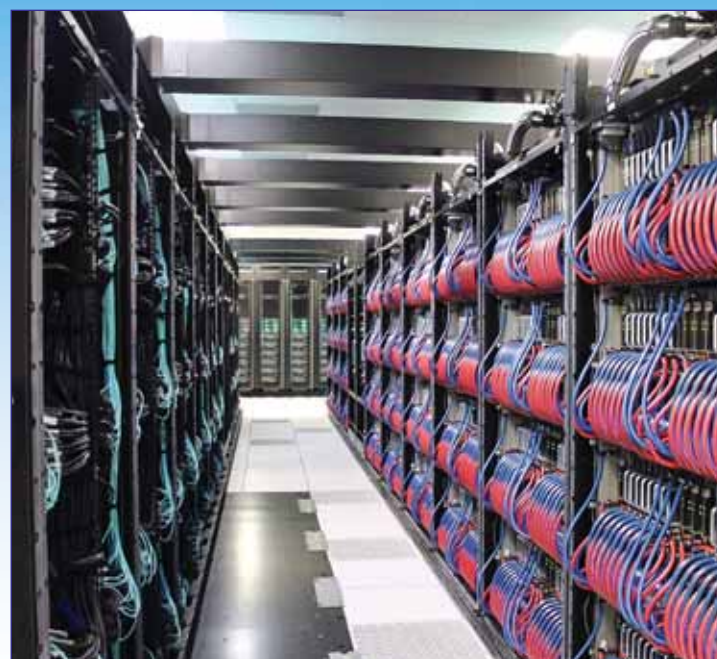
At peak performance El Capitan offers over a 22-fold increase in computing performance over Sierra, previously the fastest system at the lab, according to documents from the event. This means high-resolution simulations that would have taken weeks or months will only require hours or days on El Capitan.

Researchers will use the mighty system for complex modeling and simulations to better understand weapons performance, reliability and safety as materials age, components are upgraded and new designs are utilized, according to documents from the event. Increased fidelity of simulation will also improve researcher's understanding of physical phenomena like fluid flow, radiation transport and material behavior under extreme conditions.



Above: Deputy director for strategic deterrence at LLNL, Bradley Wallin, addresses the audience during El Capitan's dedication ceremony. Top: AMD Instinct MI300A accelerating processing units are critical to the computing power of El Capitan.

COURTESY LLNL



In addition to the sheer computational power of El Capitan, it will also support AI-based workflows for NNSA-relevant work like material discovery, design optimization, advanced manufacturing, digital twins and intelligent AI assistants trained on classified data, according to a press release from Jeremy Thomas, public information officer at LLNL.

“This story will continue to unfold in the coming months and years, as this system is applied to our national security mission,” said Rob Neely, LLNL’s associate director of weapon simulation and computing, strategic deterrence. “This is just a waypoint on a long journey.”

Already, El Capitan has been used to understand more about fusion ignition — achieved by the lab in 2022 — during the machine’s open science era.

To create such a powerful machine required a collaborative effort between LLNL, NNSA, Hewlett Packard Enterprise and AMD.

The speed of El Capitan can be attributed to its AMD Instinct MI300A accelerated processing units, which combine CPU cores, GPU cores and high bandwidth memory.

Also important to the supercomputer are contributions from HPE, including its Cray Supercomputing EX solution, direct liquid-cooling system and Slingshot interconnect.

Not only does the El Capitan offer unprecedented computing power, it also serves as a symbol of the nation’s capabilities, according to Neely.

“This is a signal to the rest of the world, both our adversaries and our allies, that we’re confident that we can continue

to maintain our nuclear deterrent without returning to underground nuclear testing — that’s something that we don’t want to have to do,” he said. “And because of these tools and capabilities, we don’t believe that we will have to and we can continue to remain at the forefront of deploying an effective deterrent.”

Marvin Adams, deputy administrator for defense programs at NNSA emphasizes the importance of that stockpile to deterrence.

“I do believe that our nuclear deterrent is playing a key role in keeping us out of major wars while maintaining our way of life in this country and the countries our partners and allies are in,” Adams said.

In addition to El Capitan, LLNL celebrated the companion system Tuolumne.

Despite being about 1/10th

Above: Creation of the supercomputer required a collaboration between LLNL, NNSA, Hewlett Packard Enterprise and AMD. Photo by Jude Strzemp. Top: The world’s fastest computer is dedicated to national security, particularly research on the nuclear stockpile. Photo courtesy LLNL. Left: El Capitan’s computing power is possible in part because of AMD’s MI300A APUs, shown off by Lisa Su, chair and CEO of AMD. Photo courtesy LLNL. Below: Researchers produced a visualization of Mach 3.0 flow past a complex geometry and comparison to experimental data from a wind tunnel at LLNL. Photo courtesy LLNL.

the size of El Capitan, Tuolumne ranks as the 10th fastest supercomputer in the world thanks to its identical architecture and components to El Capitan.

“I think calling Tuolumne number ten doesn’t do it justice,” Budil said. “Our open science machine is bigger than our current, last generation national security machine. So this step is truly revolutionary for us in terms of capability.”

Researchers at LLNL, Los Alamos and Sandia as well as other agencies through Strategic Partnership Programs will be able to use the open science system. ■



## MUSEUM ON MAIN SET TO HOST 16TH ANNUAL

# IMAGINATION EXPRESSED EXHIBIT

**PLEASANTON ART LEAGUE MEMBERS WILL DISPLAY MYRIAD OF ART STARTING JAN. 23**



Various works of art will be displayed at Museum on Main as part of the "Imagination Expressed 2025" exhibit.

MUSEUM ON MAIN

**BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO**  
Pleasanton's Museum on Main will once again be partnering with the Pleasanton Art League to host its 16th annual showcase where artists of all mediums in the Tri-Valley can display their work at the museum in downtown Pleasanton.

Starting next week, visitors will be able to view the "Imagination Expressed 2025" exhibit, which will feature an array of submitted works from PAL members, including paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, jewelry and much more.

"This year's version of Imagination Expressed promises to dazzle the eyes, engage the minds and nourish the spirits of the Museum's visitors," Museum on Main curator Ken MacLennan stated in a press release.

MacLennan told the Weekly the exhibit will

be a great chance for any artist — emerging artists and veteran ones alike — to not only possibly sell some work, but to also promote themselves to a wider audience.

"This is an opportunity for the artist to show what they've been working on," MacLennan said. "It's always very exciting to see the latest talent turning up in our show every year."

He noted that only members of the PAL can submit work for the exhibition.

Founded in 1969, PAL is a collective of local artists seeking to support and enrich the Tri-Valley art scene. Its members host exhibitions, meetings and other events throughout the year.

Christine Bourg, Imagination Expressed show co-chair, said she has been helping with the exhibit for the past five years and that it has gained so much popularity over the past few

years — so much so that last year they were overcrowded with submissions.

"Last year it was so popular that we were kind of crowded and had to put pieces in the hallway," Bourg said.

But Bourg said unlike previous years, this year all of the art submissions will be judged by a single person and that while there will be small prizes, all of the submissions will be featured in the exhibit — with some limitations.

Bourg said after last year's volume of entries, they will be limiting the amount of submissions so that people can walk around easier and appreciate the art. MacLennan added the pieces will be vetted for anything that isn't appropriate for the museum.

Bourg said that while the exhibit did begin as mostly a way for emerging artists to put themselves out there, she is glad to see the

event become more of a place where "not only new artists, but mature artists have entered their work."

"It's lovely because it's such a variety (of art)," she said.

Apart from it being a great way for artists to learn about the museum, Bourg said the annual exhibit also provides a snapshot of the types of artists who live throughout the different cities in the Tri-Valley.

"It's kind of a reflection of our community," she said.

"Imagination Expressed 2025" opens next Thursday (Jan. 23), and the museum will host a welcoming reception next Saturday (Jan. 25) from noon to 2 p.m. with beverages and food brought in from the artists.

The exhibit will run during the museum's normal operating hours until March 15. ■

## LVOpera bringing performances to Tri-Valley youth at libraries

Elementary school students will be able to participate in the classic 'The Elixir of Love'

**BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO**  
The Livermore Valley Opera will be bringing Italian composer Gaetano Donizetti's comic opera "The Elixir of Love" to life in two unconventional stages over the next couple of weeks — the libraries in Pleasanton and Livermore.

The opera performances at the Livermore Main Library on Jan. 25 and at the Pleasanton Public Library on Feb. 8 are part of LVOpera's Education and Community Engagement Program.

"(LVOpera's) Education Engagement Program reaches over 10,000 elementary school students annually by offering live opera performances to 20

Tri-Valley schools all presented free of charge," according to the nonprofit's website.

Both performances will be from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and will be free for all elementary school students in the Tri-Valley — costumes will also be provided for kids to participate in each show.

"During this charming opera performance, children from the audience will be invited to participate, playing support roles alongside the four professional artists," according to the LVOpera press release. "By encouraging youth engagement, Livermore Valley Opera presents an informal

opportunity for families to gain a better understanding and appreciation of this vibrant art form."

"The Elixir of Love", according to the nonprofit, is an entertaining, light-hearted comedy about a lovesick village boy who has eyes for a girl that has feelings for an overly-confident soldier. In the mix is a traveling doctor who comes to the village selling all kinds of medicines, including a magic love potion.

According to LVOpera, funding for its educational engagement program is provided by donations and grants from the Tri-Valley community. Learn more at [lvopera.org](http://lvopera.org). ■



LV OPERA

Tri-Valley students pose for a photo during an elementary school performance of "The Magic Flute" by the Livermore Valley Opera in 2024.

# SPARC Theater in 2025: Shakespeare and science take center stage

Programming builds up to ‘The Merry Wives of Windsor’ adaptation in vineyards and at Village Theatre

By JUDE STRZEMP

Tri-Valley stages are set this year for Shakespeare readings and plays as well as science-based productions hosted by SPARC Theater.

Set to run between February and August, multi-day performances by the professional, nonprofit theater company include retellings of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet” and the “The Merry Wives of Windsor” as well as script readings of “Copenhagen” and “PM10” in a series called Science@Play.

“In a year that has seen many theater companies close or struggle to maintain operations, SPARC is forging ahead to expand its offering of readings and performances for audiences in the East Bay and beyond, and reaffirming its commitment to hiring local Bay Area theater professionals, bringing greater opportunities for paid work to artists in our local community,” SPARC artistic director Lisa Tromovitch said in a statement.

To start off SPARC’s 2025 season, three actors will perform fast-paced versions of “Romeo & Juliet” called “Romance and Juliet” in February. As part of SPARC’s “Get Out of the House Reading Series”, the actors will read their lines from scripts and perform in front of light staging.

“The readings are a great entry into the world of theater. They are low-key, casual, and less expensive. The audience is small so you’re really a part of it. The actors embody the characters, not just read the story,” Tromovitch said.

While watching the shows, audiences can enjoy award-winning wine or chocolate desserts.

Performances of “Romance and Juliet” are set to take place at SPARC Studio in Livermore on Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 16 at 2 p.m., with an additional performance at the Front Row Theater in San Ramon on Feb. 15 at 2 p.m.

Up next are two science-based productions, scheduled for March.

As part of the fourth annual Science@Play reading series, they are intended as thought-provoking works that deepen science appreciation.

The first featured script is “Copenhagen” by Michael Frayn. As a historical drama set during World War II, play tells the story of two scientists who were involved in developing the atomic bomb — German physicist Werner Heisenberg and his former mentor, Danish physicist Niels Bohr. The show explores the relationship between science and politics, Tromovitch said.

“Copenhagen” was chosen in part because the subject is familiar to the many SPARC patrons who work at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory or Sandia National Laboratories, Tromovitch said.

Readings of “Copenhagen” will take place on March 14 at 7:30 p.m., March 15 at 7:30 p.m. and March 16 at 2 p.m. at the SPARC Studio in Livermore.

The second show is “PM10,” a newly



SPARC THEATER

SPARC Theater’s performance of Shakespeare’s “Much Ado About Nothing,” 2023. (From left) Anjolie Aguilar and Nona Truong.

commissioned piece in its early phase of development, created by film and theater writer and director Mildred Inez Lewis.

“This is a moment for arts organizations to enlighten their audiences and contribute to a global narrative by showcasing the minds and spirits of the folks in the middle of today’s scientific breakthroughs,” Tromovitch said in a statement. “By commissioning BIPOC writers to create characters for these stories, we uplift people of color as leaders in the scientific community.”

Set to direct “PM10” is renowned Bay Area-based artist Dawn Monique Williams.

“At the intersection of science and theatre, there is magic to be made and I am honored to be a small part of it by introducing this new play to audiences,” Williams said.

The readings of “PM10” are set for March 28 at 7:30 p.m., March 29 at 7:30 p.m. and March 30 at 2 p.m. at the SPARC Studio in Livermore, as well as at the Front Row Theater in San

Ramon on March 29 at 2 p.m.

SPARC’s season finale is “Sir John Falstaff and the Merry Wives of Windsor,” Tromovitch’s adaptation of Shakespeare’s “The Merry Wives of Windsor”.

Cast with all-Bay Area professionals, this production is part of the annual Shakespeare in the Vineyard series.

Performances of “Sir John Falstaff and the Merry Wives of Windsor” are set to run from July 3-27 at Darcie Kent Vineyards in Livermore, with all showtimes scheduled at 7:30 p.m.

SPARC will also host an additional three weekends of the summer production at the Village Theatre and Art Gallery in Danville from Aug. 8-24. Friday and Saturday performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. while those on Sunday are scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

For tickets or more information about SPARC Theater, visit [sparctheater.org](http://sparctheater.org). ■

# ‘Finding Nemo KIDS’ ready to make a splash at Firehouse

100+ youth actors divided into four casts for PYTC production this month

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Over 100 kids who range in age from as young as 5 years old will be taking over the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton this month as part of the Pleasanton Youth Theater Company’s first production of the year, “Finding Nemo KIDS”.

Based on the popular 2003 Pixar movie about an over-protective clownfish father’s ocean adventure as he searches for his lost son, Nemo, the 30-minute stage musical adaptation will feature four different casts who will each perform over the course of the next two weekends.

The children will perform memorable songs such as “Just Keep Swimming”, “Fish Are Friends Not Food” and “Go With the Flow,” as they portray Marlin, the anxious clownfish dad, exploring beyond the Great Barrier Reef along with his optimistic friend, Dory.

City library and recreation coordinator Jeff Zavattero told the Weekly that each cast is made up of 24 performers — ranging in age from from 7 to 11 years old — who are part of the theater company’s Sprouts program, which introduces young kids to the world of theater.

He said in addition, two of the four Sprouts casts will each have up to 14 kids ages 5 to 6 who are part of the theater company’s Lil Sprouts program. Those younger performers will join their older Sprouts counterparts in their final showcase for select songs.

Zavattero said rehearsals so far have been going great and that after auditioning for their roles in the show, each cast has been working on learning the new songs and scenes.

“Right now, we know the entire show, and we are adding props and costumes to get ready for the big show,” Zavattero said.

He added that he believes the kids and the entire production team are feeling great about the upcoming shows and that the young performers are already making the scenes their own, which he said is thanks to the fact that most of the production staff started off in the same place.

“Sitting in on rehearsals, I can see them using their blocking and choreography to make their own choices with their characters,” Zavattero said.

“I can see them thinking about how their character would feel when doing something or



CITY OF PLEASANTON

One of the four casts of the Pleasanton Youth Theater Company’s “Finding Nemo KIDS” production pose for a photo during the cast’s pajama day rehearsal.

hearing something, and it’s a testament to our incredible staff,” he added. “Almost all of our staff were participants at one point, performing on the same stage. Seeing them take what they learned and share it with the community is inspiring.”

The first cast of performers will debut the

show this Saturday (Jan. 18) at 11 a.m. After that, the other casts will be spread out that weekend until the following weekend where the last show will be next Sunday (Jan. 26) at 2 p.m.

For more information — including show dates, times and ticket prices — visit [firehouse-arts.org](http://firehouse-arts.org). ■

## POLICE BULLETIN

### Two men arrested after fight outside Donlon during school day

Pleasanton police Lt. Nicholas Albert confirmed two men who knew each other got into a physical altercation in the staging area in front of Donlon Elementary School on Jan. 8, and both were arrested and booked into Santa Rita Jail in Dublin.

“There was no disruption to school activities, nor any danger posed to students or staff,” Albert told the Weekly the next day. He added that no weapon was involved in the fight.

The incident occurred prior to the kindergarten pickup window at the school on Dorman Road in the Val Vista neighborhood, with a bystander parent calling police at around 12:50 p.m. to report a fight going on, according to Albert.

Donlon lists a 1:05 p.m. release time for all kindergarteners on Wednesdays on its website.

Both men were taken into custody on suspicion of disturbing the peace, Albert said. The names of the arrestees were not released.

— *Jeremy Walsh*

### In other news

- An individual was transported to the hospital after crashing their car into a Walmart Neighborhood Market in Pleasanton Tuesday morning, police said.

Teri Yan, community and public relations coordinator for the Pleasanton Police Department, told the Weekly that police received reports around 11:45 a.m. of a car that crashed into the store located at 3112 Santa Rita Rd.

She said no arrests were made and that a building inspector was called to the scene before the vehicle was towed.

— *Christian Trujano*

- Law enforcement officials said last week that Matthew Muller — the man at the center of the Vallejo kidnapping case that was outlined in the Netflix documentary “American Nightmare” — may have committed sexual assault and kidnapping as early as 1993 when he was 16 years old.

Multiple investigators spoke in the Monterey County city of Seaside regarding Muller and recent revelations about his criminality, including new charges in San Ramon and on the Peninsula.

Muller, 47, is in prison after being convicted for the 2015 Vallejo kidnapping of Denise Huskins-Quinn, a case that gained notoriety when Vallejo police called her story a hoax and compared it to the film “Gone Girl.”

Authorities now disavow the “Gone Girl” designation, saying naming the case after the movie is disrespectful.

“That is a derogatory term that never should have been given to this case,” said El Dorado County District Attorney Vern Pierson at the press conference on Jan. 7. “It’s premised on people lying about a crime. That never happened in this case.”

The “Gone Girl” designation became more of a condemnation of Vallejo police, not the actual case, after it came to light that the department wasted valuable time chasing an idea that Aaron Quinn and Denise Huskin-Quinn had invented their stories.

Huskins-Quinn lived on Mare Island and, along with her then-boyfriend Aaron Quinn, was drugged and tied up by Muller during a home invasion.

On Jan. 7, Huskins-Quinn, who often spoke through tears, pointed out that Muller is now accused of carrying out a very similar crime in an unincorporated area of San Ramon just weeks after their ordeal.

“Now to find out, two weeks after our kidnapping, he attacked again, and that was two days (of me being) in captivity of him telling me he was remorseful, that I didn’t deserve this ... He said, ‘seeing what this did to you has changed me. I’m done. I’m never doing this again.’”

Muller, a Harvard University-trained lawyer and former U.S. Marine, held Huskins-Quinn for ransom and sexually assaulted her in South Lake Tahoe before dropping her off at her family’s home in Huntington Beach.

Contra Costa County prosecutors announced Jan. 6 that Muller has been charged with three felonies related to an alleged kidnapping involving three victims in unincorporated San Ramon in 2015. In that case, he is accused of invading a home and holding three people hostage until they withdrew money. None of the victims ever reported the alleged kidnapping.

Muller was also charged in December with another sexual assault and two more home invasions

in Mountain View and Palo Alto in 2009 that allegedly involved tying up the victims, drugging them and assaulted them.

Seaside Police Chief Nick Borges also appeared at the Jan. 7 press conference and said that in March 2024, he began communicating with Muller at the federal prison in Tucson, Ariz., where he’s serving a 40-year prison term.

Muller allegedly admitted to other crimes in those discussions and in discussions with Pierson, the El Dorado County district attorney who said he carried out a 10-month investigation.

The details of any new allegations or crimes were not specified, other than saying at least one could involve kidnapping and assault.

The former Dublin detective who solved the bungled Vallejo case by catching Muller, Misty Carausu, is now a lieutenant with the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office. She said she hopes policing will continue to improve in the wake of the “American Nightmare” case.

“I was trying not to get emotional today,” Carausu said. “Victim awareness is real, I implore everybody to be kinder, to make sure that the information that we are putting out there is correct, that mistakes don’t get made again like this.”

The press conference was an opportunity to discuss updates in the Muller case but also to make a plea for better investigations.

Pierson said that the “American Nightmare” case has actually had an impact on how law enforcement handles cases now.

“All too often when something like this happens ... what are so obviously mistakes that took place in the initial days of the investigation after the home invasion and the abduction, is to focus on the negative,” he said. “But the truth is, this is much more about positive changes in the way law enforcement training is now done here in the state of California.”

Pierson added that how detectives conduct interviews and collaborate with other agencies has been improved as a result of the Vallejo case.

Aaron Quinn expressed confidence in Pierson’s approach.

“If investigators had used the interviewing techniques that D.A. Pierson is advocating for, then I think our case would have been solved,” he said. “Don’t forget that the kidnapers were emailing me, calling my phone, while the police were telling me I murdered Denise. And instead of tracking those phone calls, instead of following where the evidence led, they decide to turn my phone on airplane mode.”

Quinn also said he was “confident” that any other cases after theirs could have been prevented if they had used Pierson’s approach.

Huskins-Quinn said that Vallejo police have still not personally apologized to them.

Vallejo police no longer comment on the Muller case.

— *Katy St. Clair and Tony Hicks, BCN*

## James Brittain

September 14, 1934 – January 10, 2025

Jim Brittain, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away peacefully at the age of 90 on January 10, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Born on September 14, 1934, in Oakland, California, Jim lived a full and vibrant life, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and cherished memories. Jim attended Castlemont High School in Oakland before fate brought him to Diane, the love of his life and best friend, during a blind date at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley in 1953. Their connection was instant, and they soon married in 1956, building a beautiful life together over 68 wonderful years. Jim and Diane moved to Pennsylvania where Jim proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1957 to 1959. A devoted family man, Jim was the proud father of two daughters, Kris Snyder (Dave) and Sheri Kapp (Ross), and the loving grandfather of three grandchildren: Emilie Kapp, Rachael Ascencio, and Ryan Snyder. He was eagerly anticipating the arrival of his first great-granddaughter, due in March 2025. Jim had a zest for life that was contagious. He had a quick wit and an incredible sense of humor, always bringing joy to those around him. An avid golfer in his younger years, he enjoyed countless rounds with his buddies. He had a sweet tooth for chocolate and peanut butter and could often be found savoring his favorite treats. Jim found immense joy in life’s simple pleasures, from watching western movies every evening, to taking trips to his favorite places: Lake Tahoe and Maui. He created lasting memories with his family on vacations to these cherished destinations. A lifelong fan of the Oakland A’s, Jim treasured his many years attending spring training in Arizona. Jim had a deep passion for life, always embracing each moment with warmth and positivity. He never wanted to grow old, and he lived each day to its fullest. Jim will be deeply missed by his wife, Diane, his daughters, grandchildren, extended family, and friends. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. Rest in peace, Jim. Your humor, love, and spirit will remain with us always. The family kindly requests donations to Shriners Hospital, in honor of Jim’s legacy.



PAID OBITUARY

## Tracy Chiaramonte Schmidig

June 12, 1960 – November 15, 2024

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Tracy Chiaramonte-Schmidig, a beloved mother, daughter, sister, and friend, who left this world on Friday, November 15th, 2024. Tracy’s spirit was one that truly lit up any room, bringing laughter and joy to everyone she met. Known for her infectious sense of humor and larger-than-life personality, Tracy lived life to the fullest, embracing every adventure and always finding a way to make people smile. Tracy had a wild, fun-loving nature. Her playful, carefree attitude inspired those around her to live with the same sense of joy and spontaneity she brought to everything she did. Whether telling a hilarious story or simply being a supportive and loyal friend, Tracy’s zest for life was contagious. Tracy is survived by her children, Courtney, Bailey, Rainer, and many other cherished family members and friends. While her time with us was far too short, Tracy leaves behind a legacy of laughter, love, and unforgettable memories. Her warmth and energy will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

A celebration of Tracy’s life will be held at Sunshine Saloon on Saturday, January 25th at 12:00pm.



PAID OBITUARY



BY DENNIS MILLER

## Pleasanton Preps: Foothill ceremony celebrates 'Randy Isaacs Court'

Special moment before Granada game honors Falcons' former basketball coach

As I talked about last week, Friday night was the official dedication of the "Randy Isaacs Court" in the gym at Foothill. Isaacs, a legendary basketball coach at Foothill and a much beloved friend and teacher on the campus, passed away April 6 while hiking with his wife and another couple.

After we heard about the passing, I was joined by former football coach Matt Sweeney, current volleyball coach Dusty Collins, and former Foothill basketball coach and former athletic director Tom Hansen in coming up with the renaming of the court after our friend. Last Friday before the Falcons' opener with Granada, Sweeney, Collins and myself spoke to the crowd about Isaacs for the official dedication.

It also gave us a chance to thank Foothill principal Sebastian Bull for taking our idea and getting it done in record time for something in the Pleasanton Unified School District! Along with the "Randy Isaacs Court" on the floor, there is a quote Isaacs would always say, "How Great Was That". I must give credit to my wife Coni for the suggestion to add the quote.

At the end of our talk, I had the crowd stand and asked them on three to yell, "How Great Was That". It was awesome, and it was a special moment to see the parents, players and coaches from Granada participate.

A big thank you to the Granada group for that, as well as indulging us to have the ceremony.

One more thing: I was asked by several people Friday night if there were provisions when the new Foothill gym comes to life in the next couple of years to carry over the dedication to the new floor and was assured the plans had already been made.

### Amador Valley girls' soccer

The Dons got a 3-0, non-league win over Livermore back on Dec. 11. Freshman Addison Stout got it going for Amador, scoring an unassisted goal. The Dons made it 2-0 when sophomore Mira Garuda scored off an assist from Stout. The final Amador goal came on an own goal by the Cowboys off an Amador corner kick.

On Jan. 9, the Dons opened East Bay Athletic League play with a 3-1 win over California.

Senior Maylen Montoya scored twice, one of an assist came from Julie Wanis, with the other one unassisted. Senior Alden Hofstede blazed down the left side to put in goal number 3 for Amador, with the assist from Junior Kailee Walker.

### Amador Valley boys' basketball

The Dons dropped their EBAL opener 57-44 to California on Jan. 10.

Cade Krueger had 20 points for the Dons, with his brother Kasen adding eight.

### Get on the results train!

The results from our winter sports have been sketchy so far, with one exception.

The Amador boys' basketball team has turned in every game this season — win or lose. A big pat on the back goes out to Amador parent Scott McMillin for sending in all Amador results.

And he does it the way I have recommended: takes a picture of the scorebook at the end of the game and texts it to me right away. It allows me to get the results each night.

It's that easy but we have not gotten anything from the other three Foothill and Amador Valley



Randy Isaacs

basketball teams. The scorekeeper can do it in less than 10 minutes — just total the book, take a picture

and text to me — win or lose.

This week Amador girls' soccer reached out, which makes sense as the Dons have only played a couple games.

Let's see if we can consistently get all the soccer results. Even if you get shut out, there has to be some of the players who had good games and we can get them some recognition!

Has wrestling started yet? If it has, you would not know it as it has been crickets thus far.

Once again, I need the results every Sunday at noon. My contact information is acesmag@aol.com and 925-200-0719. ■

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## THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### City Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

- Hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution approving amendments to the Master Fee Schedule increasing or adding new fees for Special Event and Support Services Fees, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Standby Services Fees, Stormwater Facility Inspection Fees, Pleasanton Public Library Fines and Fees, and Co-Sponsored Group Use of City Fields Fees
- Continued from November 19, 2024 - Accept the Final Water System Management Plan dated October 2024
- Receive Water System Activities Update
- Accept Downtown Pleasanton Property and Business Improvement District Feasibility Report and Allocate up to \$70,000 to Implement the PBID Formation Process for Downtown Pleasanton

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov)

## LARPD restores gym floors at community center

Project gives surface 'additional 20 years'

BY JUDE STRZEMP

The Robert Livermore Community Center's gym floor has new stripes and a glossy shine once again, following recent renovations by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

Coinciding with the center's 20th anniversary, the rehab project enhances the gym's durability and preserves it for ongoing sports and programs hosted by LARPD, according to an announcement from the district.

"The refurbishment of the gym

floors is expected to extend their useful life an additional 20 years and ensure they continue to meet the community's recreational needs effectively," said Fred Haldeman, parks and facilities manager at LARPD.

Work on the flooring involved sanding, resealing and restriping for basketball, volleyball and pickleball games.

LARPD revealed the renovated flooring late last month at the West Coast Jamboree tournament, where high school basketball teams graced the grounds. ■

# Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/employment\\_ads/](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/).

For assistance email [LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com).

# Public Notices

## 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)

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.: 24CV105578

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: TUAN NGOC VI filed a petition with

this court for a decree changing names as follows:

BACH THONG PHAN to THOMAS PHAN

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons

interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person

objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/02/2025, 9:30am, department 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador St, 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: 12/30/2024

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 25CV106063

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Hannah Claudia Doan filed a

petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

HANNAH CLAUDIA DOAN to HANNAH DOAN PORCEL

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons

interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person

objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/02/2025, 9:30 AM, 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: 01/10/2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 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: 05/02/2025, 9:30 AM, 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: 01/10/2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 25CV105400

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Tracey Necole Broadhead Frith

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

TRACEY NECOLE BROADHEAD FRITH to TRACEY NECOLE BROADHEAD FRITH WHITE 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 14, 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: January 6, 2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA Case No.: 25CV106058

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Petitioner: Francisco Porcel Rodriguez filed a

petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

FRANCISCO PORCEL RODRIGUEZ to FRANCISCO PORCEL

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons

interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person

objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that

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

NOTICE OF HEARING: 05/02/2025, 9:30 am, 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: 01/10/2025

Thomas J. Nixon

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 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)

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)

TJ BURRUEL CONSULTING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 611252

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

1.) TJ BURRUEL CONSULTING , located at 1888 RHODODENDRON DR. LIVERMORE, CA 94551, ALAMEDA County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

THOMAS BURRUEL

1888 RHODODENDRON DR.

LIVERMORE, CA 94551

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

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 17 2024.

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 2025)

PREMIUM PSYCHIATRIC CARE NURSING-PC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 611154

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

1.) Premium Psychiatric Care Nursing-PC , located at 6200 Stoneridge Mall Rd ste#300, Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

PREMIUM PSYCHIATRIC CARE NURSING-PC

6200 Stoneridge Mall Dr ste# 300

Pleasanton, CA 94588

State of Incorporation/Organization: CA

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/04/2024

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 12 2024.

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 2025)

BLUEBERRY STUDIOS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No.: 611620

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

1.) Blueberry Studios , located at 4147 Ravenwood Pl, Castro Valley, CA 94546, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):

LAURA SNOW

4147 Ravenwood Pl

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 January 06 2025.

(PLW Jan 17, 24, 31 and Feb 7, 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

# Public Notices

Continued from previous page

BERKELEY STRUCTURAL DESIGN  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 611438  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) Berkeley Structural Design, located at 1411 Glendale Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708, Alameda County.  
This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
WILLIAM S LYNCH  
1411 Glendale Ave  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
SHELLY LYNCH  
1411 Glendale Ave  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/06/2011  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 24 2024.  
(PLW Jan 10, 17, 24 and 31, 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)

ALL AROUND AUTO GLASS  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 611166  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
1.) ALL AROUND AUTO GLASS, located at 2352 WEST AVENUE 134TH, SAN LEANDRO, CA 94577, ALAMEDA County.  
This business is conducted by: an Individual.  
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):  
ALEJANDRO GARCIA CONTRERAS  
2352 WEST AVENUE 134TH  
SAN LEANDRO, CA 94577  
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on MAY 31, 2018.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 12 2024.  
(PLW Jan 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2025)

Place a legal notice at  
PleasantonWeekly.com/legal\_notices/

# Calendar

## Entertainment

**JAZZ AT INKLINGS** Featuring guest vocalist Kenny Washington accompanied by Matt Finders Trio. 6 p.m., Jan. 17. Limited seating. Reserve at [meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society](https://meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society).

**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](https://livermorearts.org).

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** Join the Royal Theater Academy, a family educational theater company based in Dublin and designed to nurture the artist in everyone, for The Wizard of Oz, at Cal State East Bay. Jan 17-19. Visit [royaltheateracademy.com](https://royaltheateracademy.com)

**BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO STANDUP COMEDY** This comedy tour de force includes some of the hottest up and coming acts in the Bay Area. 8 p.m., Jan. 18. Tickets. \$28. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://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](https://firehousearts.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. 18, 25; 1 p.m., Jan. 19, 25-26. Tickets \$45. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://livermorearts.org).

**MARK HUMMEL AT THE FIREHOUSE** Grammy Award Nominee and Winner of two Blues Music Awards, Mark Hummel is considered one of the premier blues harmonica players of his generation. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 31. Tickets \$28-\$38. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://firehousearts.org).

**THE COOLTONES BIG BAND** The CoolTones Big Band returns to the Firehouse with an incredible range of genres including Big Band, Swing, Jazz and Blues and few surprises from R&B. 7 p.m., Feb. 1. Tickets \$23-\$33. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://firehousearts.org).

## Exhibitions

**THE GIFT OF THREE WORDS** Visit the Livermore Civic Center Library Art Gallery during January to discover the Gift of Three Words in celebration of Ruth J. Colvin, adult literacy pioneer and luminary who was instrumental in the beginnings of the volunteer adult literacy movement in the U.S.

**ART OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA** View the artwork of talented Bay Area artists in this Black History Month 2025 Art Exhibit. Feb. 1-28, Livermore Civic Center Library.

**FLORA IN FOCUS EXHIBIT** The Harrington Gallery welcomes back the Flora in Focus group exhibition featuring approximately 80 works

of various mediums. Now through March 8. 444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

**ADORNED: A CELEBRATION OF WEARABLE ART** An inspiring exploration of fashion and fine art, this exhibit reveals how everyday garments transform into display-worthy masterpieces. Now through March 1. UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery at the Bankhead Theater.

**IMAGINATION EXPRESSED 2025** This show at Museum on Main features paintings, drawings, photography, ceramics, jewelry and other works by members of the Pleasanton Art League. Jan. 23 to March 15. 603 Main St., Pleasanton.

## Fundraisers

**WINES AND VALENTINES** Join for the 18th Annual Wines & Valentines Dinner and help raise money for Museum on Main. The event includes a 4-course meal, History Maker's Award, silent auction, live auction, wine pull, music and dancing. 5-10 p.m., Jan. 31. Palm Event Center. For tickets visit [museumonmain.org](https://museumonmain.org).

## Government

**PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL** Pleasanton City Council Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers, 200 Old Bernal Ave. The next meeting is 7 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit [cityofpleasantonca.gov](https://cityofpleasantonca.gov).

## Talks

**FUNGUS AMONG US** Join an LARPD ranger at the Livermore Rincon library to have some fun with fungus through hands-on exploration and experiments. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Jan. 17.

**FILM CLUB MOVIE & DISCUSSION** Join for a free movie showing on the big screen and stay for an engaging group discussion about the movie. 1:30-4 p.m., Jan. 18. Pleasanton Library.

**UNLOCKING THE POWER OF BREATH** Join for this Rae Dorrough Speaker Series, "Unlocking the Power of Breath with James Nestor", where he explains that breathing is the key to transforming our lives. 7:30 p.m., Jan. 23. Ticket \$25-\$65. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://livermorearts.org).

**THEN & NOW LIVERMORE STORIES** Supervising naturalist Ashley Grenier from East Bay Regional Parks will present: Then and Now: Del Valle Regional Park. 7 p.m., Jan. 28. Livermore Civic Center Library.

**NATIVE GARDENING 101** LARPD Open Space Interpreter Christine Cardosi will present Native Gardening 101 where she will discuss the growing movement to plant natives, identify easy starter plants and describe the incredible benefits native plants provide. 2 p.m., Feb. 2. Livermore Civic Center Library.

**HACIENDA PARK TOASTMASTERS** Hacienda Park Toastmasters Club meets in-person and virtually via Zoom. Overcome fear of speaking in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Visit [haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org](https://haciendapark.toastmastersclubs.org).

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT [PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM](https://PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM)

## PET OF THE WEEK

### Curl up with Chloe

Chloe is a beautiful, snowy cat who knows what she likes. Whether she's perching atop the furniture, curled up in her favorite blankets or announcing it's playtime with her characteristic "chirps", this charming 3-year-old brings her sweet personality into everything. Because she prefers a home environment, Chloe is spending time with one of our foster volunteers while we look for her perfect fit. To meet this darling feline, reach out to [customercare@eastbayspca.org](mailto:customercare@eastbayspca.org) and we'll schedule a meet-and-greet that works for you.



EAST BAY SPCA

## Outdoor Rec

**RANGER PROGRAM: NATURE JOURNALING** Explore nature journaling with an LARPD Ranger by using a journal or paper. 10-11 a.m., Jan. 18. Sycamore Grove Park. Visit [larpd.org](https://larpd.org).

**MUSHROOM MADNESS** Join LARPD Rangers and the Bay Area Mycological Society for the annual SGP mushroom hunt. Crawl around under trees and wander through meadows to see many different types of fungi. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Jan. 20. Visit [larpd.org](https://larpd.org).

**NEW YEAR NEW ME HIKE** Join an LARPD Ranger on a fresh new year's hike through Sycamore Grove Park. Wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Jan. 25. Visit [larpd.org](https://larpd.org).

**DEL VALLE LICHEN** Explore some of the park and learn about fungus and algae living together to create a complicated superstar, lichen. Drop-in program, no registration. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Jan. 26. Del Valle Visitor Center.

**TRAILS CHALLENGE 2025** East Bay Regional Park Trails Challenge includes 20 designated trails ranging from easy to challenging where participants walk, ride or roll five trails, or 26.2 total miles, by Dec. 31. Walking, biking and horseback riding are all ways visitors can participate. Visit [ebparks.org/trails-challenge](https://ebparks.org/trails-challenge).

## Expos

**WORLDSWORST EXPO** Worldsworst Expo is a curated market featuring vendors selling vintage clothing, shoes, streetwear, handmade goods and more. 12-6 p.m., Jan. 18. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](https://alamedacountyfair.com).

**OPPORTUNITIES EXPO: EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES AND JOB FAIR** This event provides a valuable opportunity for job seekers to bring their resumes, connect with local employers, establish professional relationships and explore potential employment options. 5-8 p.m., Jan. 21. Livermore Civic Center Library.

**TRI-VALLEY R.I.S.E.** This event brings together the wide variety of entrepreneurs that make up the region's hospitality industry. The

evening begins with a small business exposition held in the lobby followed by a series of live interviews and keynote speakers. 6 p.m., Jan. 21. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://livermorearts.org).

**MANUFACTURERS RV SHOW** The 36th Manufacturers RV Shows brings together top dealers to display the very latest models where guests receive RV-ing tips, trips and news to use. Jan. 24 to Feb. 2. Visit [alamedacountyfair.com](https://alamedacountyfair.com).

## Volunteer

**ANNUAL VOLUNTEERISM FESTIVAL** The Make A Difference for Pleasanton Festival is a yearly gathering of dozens of local nonprofits offering volunteer opportunities for adults, families and teenagers. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 18. Pleasanton Senior Center.

**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. to 3 p.m., Jan. 18. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. For questions contact [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com).

**PLEASANTON MILITARY FAMILIES** Volunteer with Pleasanton Military Families to make cards for the troop pack out and more. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 18. Pleasanton Senior Center. Visit [pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org](https://pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org).

**ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM** The Pleasanton Library's Adult Literacy Program is seeking volunteers to help adults improve English reading, writing, and conversation skills. Volunteer training & orientation is 5-8:30 p.m., Jan. 22 at the Pleasanton Library. For questions, contact the Pleasanton Library Literacy Team at 925-931-3405 or [literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov](mailto:literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov).

**BECOME A LITERACY VOLUNTEER** Become a literacy volunteer and help adults with basic reading, writing or conversation skills. No previous experience necessary. The next three-part volunteer training is 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Jan. 22, 27, 29. Visit the Literacy Office at the Livermore Civic Center, email [literacy@livermoreca.gov](mailto:literacy@livermoreca.gov) or call 925-373-5507.

# Real Estate

## HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Oct. 21-25 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Dec. 9-13 for San Ramon.

### Pleasanton

**4169 Amberwood Circle** J. Leclaire to C. & G. Mayorga for \$882,000  
**728 East Angela Street** S. & J. So to G. Owens for \$1,625,000  
**2965 Bottini Court** A. & G. Sowers to Christie Living Trust for \$6,100,000  
**3812 Brumm Court** A. & S. Pinnamaraju to P. & E. Hanson for \$1,500,000  
**20 Cali Court** Belinga Trust to Hashwin Family Trust for \$1,165,000  
**7758 Country Lane** N. & K. Walsh to Camaisa Family Trust for \$4,145,000  
**11301 Dublin Canyon Road** D. Lewis to Silveira Trust for \$2,000,000  
**2606 Minton Court** V. Anumula to D. & V. Nair for \$1,760,000  
**5098 Monaco Drive** E. & P. Hanson to A. & A. Kasilingam for \$2,350,000  
**2938 Moreno Avenue** R. Gianotti to B. & N. Rana for \$1,500,000  
**8170 Mountain View Drive #A** N. & N. Kaushik to M. & D. Lee for \$600,000  
**4038 Nice Court** 2014 Herrera Family Trust to M. Yamashita for \$952,000  
**1084 Riesling Drive** M. Chen to H. & H. Mai for \$1,680,000  
**4820 Saginaw Circle** Daggett Properties LLC to S. & D. Banerjee for \$718,000  
**3374 Smoketree Commons #117** G. Chow to Smith Family Trust for \$525,000  
**4516 Sutter Gate Avenue** Family Trust to A. & A. Singireddy for \$1,850,000

### Livermore

**455 Ann Court** O. & E. Sharpe to T. & E. Bell for \$1,250,000  
**1437 Arlington Road** Whippet Trust to C. & R. Mount for \$850,000  
**1122 Batavia Avenue** D. Jadav to Fernandez Family Trust for \$1,312,000  
**1473 Columbine Way** D. & L. Gomez to S. & R. Blake for \$1,560,500  
**4055 Compton Court** R. Anderson to M. & L. Zheng for \$975,000  
**1061 Eve Lane** Gardner Living Trust to C. & M. Mattoon for \$1,655,000  
**577 Everglades Lane** H. Vargas to T. & B. Dang for \$1,030,000  
**1250 Gusty Loop #1** K. & K. Mukherjee to S. & R. Prakhya for \$850,000  
**1758 Hollyhock Street** J. & D. Polley to S. Suri for \$1,000,000  
**2726 Kellogg Loop** M. & C. Cohagan to L. & A. Kona for \$1,970,000  
**776 Laurel Drive** E. Cahill to H. Springer for \$1,030,000  
**1377 Le Havre Court** K. & K. Wallace to C. & S. Kumar for \$1,550,000  
**418 North M Street** V. Johnson to L. & J. Hartley for \$826,000  
**5719 Mary Lou Way** S. Mercer to S. & V. Kotu for \$1,603,000  
**6460 Owl Way** Spencer Trust to K. & V. Tomar for \$1,600,000  
**1437 Roselli Drive** J. & C. Melendez to V. & S. Pasumamula for \$1,100,000  
**1368 Spring Valley Common** R. Villegas to W. & G. Chow for \$655,000  
**5860 Tortuga Common** J. & L. Stenzel to L. & J. Rajamani for \$1,330,000

**1452 Wilton Road** C. & R. Karkazis to T. & T. Nguyen for \$1,000,000

**1371 Windsor Way** S. Mcdaniel to N. & P. Malik for \$1,515,000

### Dublin

**7005 Amador Valley Boulevard** Horn Family Trust to S. Vakicharla for \$1,270,000  
**7626 Cardigan Street** Jagath Trust to N. & M. Katepallewar for \$1,313,000  
**5823 Dublin Boulevard** S. Su to H. & P. Lee for \$1,000,000  
**5771 Idlewood Street** Liu & Wang Family Trust to I. & V. Valluri for \$1,920,000  
**7755 Kelly Canyon Drive** Au Family Trust to Aravind & Sunita Trust for \$2,650,000  
**11594 Ladera Court** Wong Trust to Vasudha Living Trust for \$1,769,000

**3240 Maguire Way #400** Li & Lei Trust to A. & R. Khilari for \$835,000

**7517 Mindy Mae Lane** D. Song to L. & C. Yau for \$2,200,000

**10786 Sornoway Lane** J. Bautista to J. & P. Kang for \$957,000

### San Ramon

**23 Arapaho Court** Smith Family Trust to D. & B. Parekh for \$1,850,000  
**2774 Canyon Creek Drive** Sps Properties LLC to A. Singh for \$1,560,000  
**11 Carson Court** Farin Living Trust to A. & S. Kocharlakota for \$1,800,000  
**10134 Colima Avenue** C. & J. Barton to K. & R. Karuppiah for \$1,120,000

Source: California REsource

## SALES AT A GLANCE

### Pleasanton (Oct. 21-25)

**Total sales reported:** 16  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$525,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$6,100,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,834,500

### Livermore (Oct. 21-25)

**Total sales reported:** 20  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$655,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$1,970,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,233,075

### Dublin (Oct. 21-25)

**Total sales reported:** 9  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$835,000

**Highest sale reported:** \$2,650,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,546,000

### Sunol (Oct. 21-25)

**Total sales reported:** 1  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$3,100,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$3,100,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$3,100,000

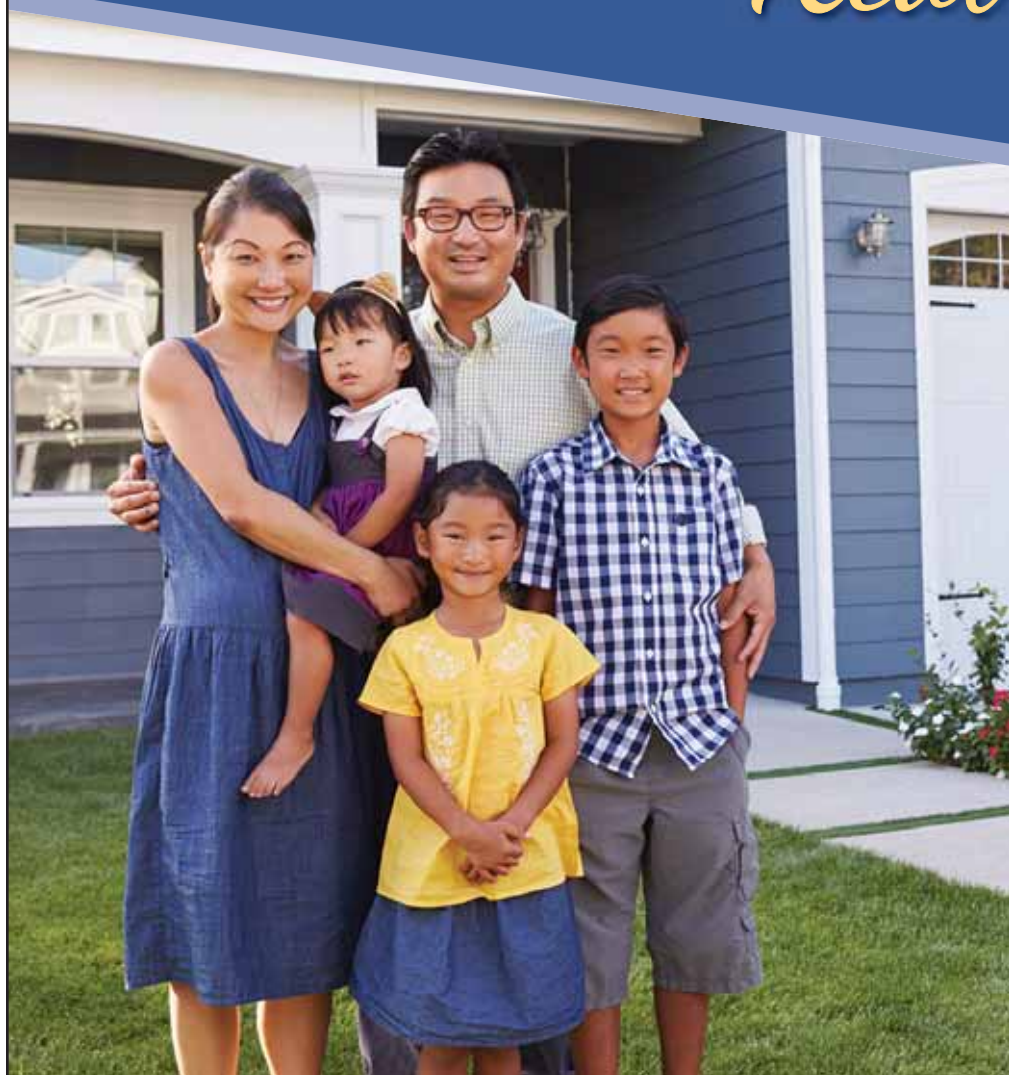
### San Ramon (Dec. 9-13)

**Total sales reported:** 9  
**Lowest sale reported:** \$448,000  
**Highest sale reported:** \$2,940,000  
**Average sales reported:** \$1,560,000

Source: California REsource

# Real Estate Preview

## Pleasanton's spotlight on local Real Estate



### Coming inside your Pleasanton Weekly on January 31, 2025

The Real Estate Preview section will include news and articles of interest about the local market, information on obtaining a mortgage, and how to prepare a home for sale.

#### Attention Real Estate Agents:

Showcase your current listings and introduce yourself to prospective clients by advertising inside the Real Estate Preview section.

For more information email Carol Cano at [ccano@PleasantonWeekly.com](mailto:ccano@PleasantonWeekly.com).

**Pleasanton Weekly**

Just a few:  
*A year in review*  
**2024**



**KRIS MOXLEY**  
 REAL ESTATE



**17630  
 Grand Island Rd,  
 Walnut Grove, CA**  
 Waterfront on the  
 Sacramento River  
 2 Docks | solar  
 spacious grass yards  
 front and back  
 Built in 2018  
 3 Bdr | 2 Ba | 11,997 Lot  
 \$1,200,000



**Castlewood, Pleasanton**  
 4 Bdr | 2.5 Ba | 2,880 SfFt | 21,000 lot  
 With a downstairs full apartment.

**Kris Moxley**  
 925.519.9080

DRE 00790463  
 moxleyrealestate.com  
 kris@moxleyrealestate.com

900 Main Street,  
 Pleasanton, CA 94566

**Is 2025 your year to make a move?**

[www.kris@moxleyrealestate.com](http://www.kris@moxleyrealestate.com)

**925.519.9080**

# VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE



EXCELLENCE

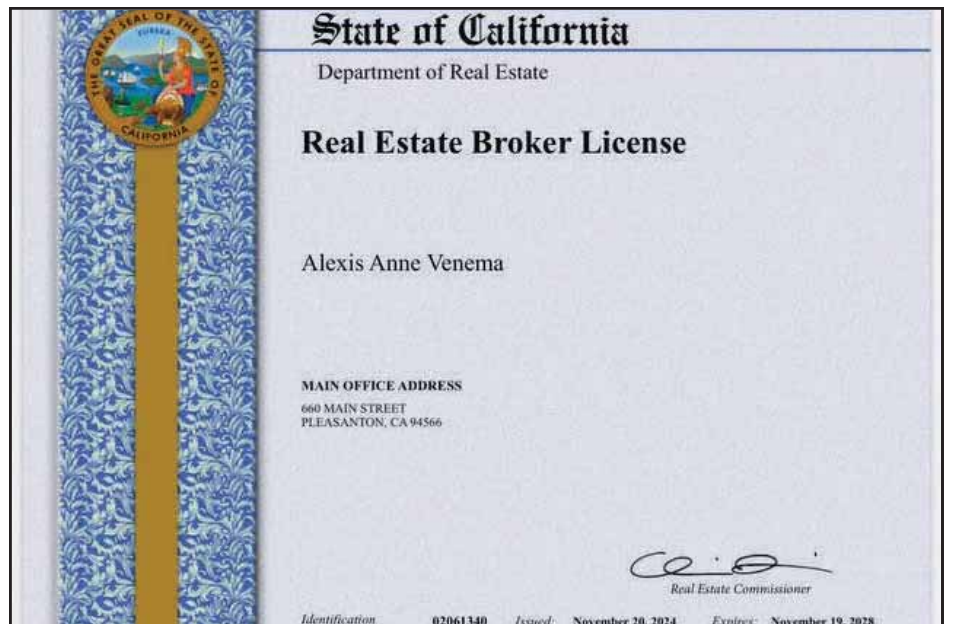
## OPEN HOUSE!

*join us this weekend!*



## CONGRATULATIONS ALEXIS!

**On Becoming A Licensed Real Estate Broker!**



**Proven Track Record of Leadership, Strong Client Relationships, Commitment to Team Success, and Unwavering Work Ethic**

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