

Pleasanton Weekly

Luxury Homes
Preview

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VOL. XXVI, NUMBER 5 • FEBRUARY 28, 2025

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A melting pot of South American cuisine

Oyo expands dining space in
downtown Pleasanton after years of success

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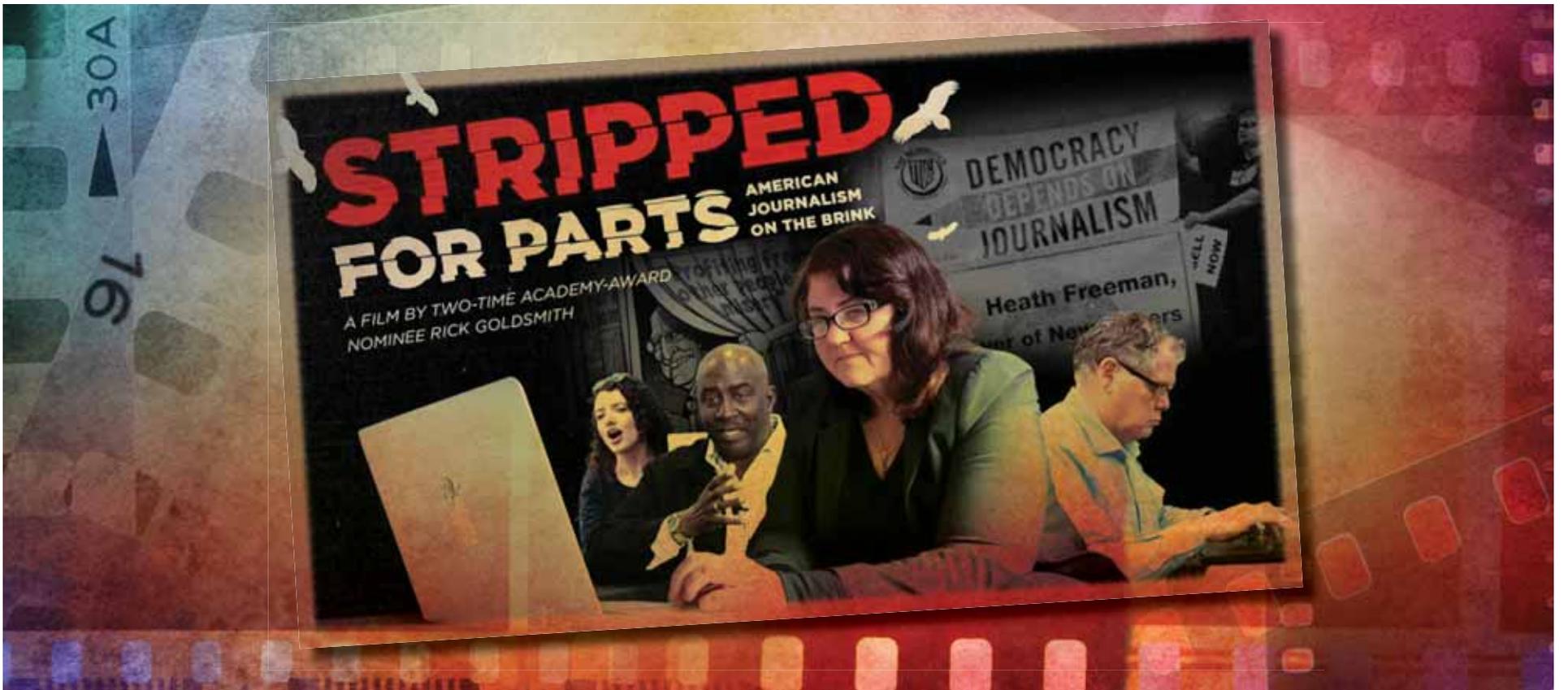


PLEASANTON WEEKLY

25

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AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM

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STRIPPED FOR PARTS

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Join us for a special screening of this award-winning documentary.

Local journalism throughout America is facing a financial crisis due to the collapse of its ad-supported business model. And while local newspapers seek grassroots public support to survive, a sinister and cynical force on Wall Street has quietly seized on the opportunity to buy up news organizations across the country, decimate their staffs, destroy their independence and deprive local readers of a critical tool supporting democracy. The Mercury News, East Bay Times and many California newspapers are among the approximately 200 newspapers nationwide now owned by Alden Global Capital, a New York-based hedge fund and a major subject of the film.

“Stripped for Parts: American Journalism on the Brink” exposes the battle between hedge funds and local community leaders for control over their local news and the future of journalism.

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WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Science@Play

While most often associated with Shakespeare (which is the “S” in its official full name), SPARC Theater continues to embrace another “s” word that is closely linked to its hometown of Livermore ... science.

The nonprofit performing arts company is presenting its fourth annual Science@Play series next month, script-in-hand performances of two works that are apt selections for a community known for being home to two national laboratories and the namesake of an atomic element.

The theatrical reading of Michael Frayn’s “Copenhagen” comes first, from March 14-16 in the quaint SPARC Studio in downtown Livermore. A similar production style with the newly commissioned play “PM10” by Mildred Inez Lewis follows March 28-30.

“Readings like this are fun because you can focus directly on the language and storytelling. Since we are not spending time on physical movement and external production values, we can draw the playwright’s story out,” Emilie Talbot, who is directing the “Copenhagen” shows, told me this week.

“This play is particularly suited to a reading like this as it does not depend on a large or detailed setting, and the action is ultimately in the dialogue,” Talbot added. “It also requires nimbleness and flexibility, but that is also what is so much fun, for it means that the discoveries are coming fast and furiously, and the audience experiences something fresh and lively.”

“Copenhagen,” which won the Tony Award for Best Play in 2000, follows the real-life stories of physicists Werner Heisenberg and Niels Bohr and Bohr’s wife Margrethe at a critical moment in scientific history.

It’s an evocative piece appropriate to tell at this time, in the eyes of Lisa Tromovitch, executive and artistic director for SPARC.

“We, today, are of the nuclear age. It’s fascinating to examine the human side of the race to harness nuclear power that is now past-history for us,” Tromovitch told me.

“It’s also fascinating to me to see scientific principles such as the uncertainty principle manifest in our daily lives, reflecting our personal ways of thinking and remembering,” she said. “We often think of ourselves, humans, as somehow apart from the rest of nature, but we are as integral a part of it, and as subject to its laws, as any individual atom is.”

Two weeks later, Science@Play will examine the modern environmental quandary of the Owens Lake Restoration Project with “PM10”, a dramatization of an unlikely love story amid the very real questions on remediation of the dried lakebed.

“PM10’ will be such an important play,” Tromovitch said. “Though it is set in a very specific place, Owens Lake, California, the interplay of community, history and science applies to all places that are dealing with acute issues around water, climate change, air quality. The changes we’ve made to our environments are affecting our health, our welfare, and our sense of community.”

“We still need contemporary writers like Mildred Lewis to write for us again, to call our attention to the intricacies of the issues we face today, and that future generations will face if we don’t act,” Tromovitch added. “Of course it’s also a love story.”

Directed by Dawn Monique Williams, three performances of “PM10” will be at the SPARC Studio in Livermore that holds an audience of 50, while a fourth show will be added — a Saturday matinee on March 29 — in San Ramon’s Front Row Theater, nearly twice the size.

“Our SPARC Studio space is more casual, and the post-show discussions tend to be more lively, perhaps because we’re all seated on the same level,” Tromovitch said. “We will have post-show discussions for all the readings. That’s half the fun, really! I always learn something new with all the lab scientists and engineers in our audience.”

Science@Play arrives amid a busy and important time for the theater company.

SPARC Trivia Night fundraiser this Friday (Feb. 28) at 3 Steves Winery in Livermore — the game hosted by our Streetwise columnists Nancy and Jeff Lewis’ Home Brew Trivia starts at 6:30 p.m. The nonprofit also has its Shakespeare’s Birthday Party/Fundraiser with Wolf Hamlin and the Front Porch Drifters at 3 Steves Winery in Livermore on the evening of April 23.

Then attention turns to SPARC Theater’s trademark Shakespeare in the Vineyard production, “Sir John Falstaff & The Merry Wives of Windsor.” Tromovitch’s adaptation of the Bard’s classic tale runs in July outdoors at Darcie Kent Vineyards in Livermore before moving indoors to the historic Village Theatre in downtown Danville in August. ■

About the Cover

Oyo executive chef and founder Maurice Dissels stands between his two sons Sam (left) and Leicester (right) for a photo in front of the new murals that are part of the restaurant’s recent expansion project that the family business completed at the end of last year in downtown Pleasanton. Photo by Christian Trujano. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn. Vol. XXVI, Number 5



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CAMP CONNECTION

Bothwell Arts Center's Art Camps

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LivermoreArts.org/Arts-Education/Learn

At the Bothwell Arts Center, art camp is more than just a place to create — it's a space where young artists explore, experiment, and express themselves in exciting new ways. Designed for children who love to engage their imaginations, the camps offer a hands-on, immersive experience in a variety of artistic mediums. From painting and sculpture to mixed media and beyond, each day presents a fresh opportunity for campers to bring their ideas to life.

Spring Break and Summer Arts Camps are open to ages 6-15 years old. Art camps are taught by talented artists sharing their passion, skills, and creativity; inspiring and guiding the kids to unlock their artistic potential through fun and engaging activities.

The camps foster a supportive and inspiring environment where creativity thrives. Whether a child is a budding artist or simply enjoys trying new things, they will find encouragement and guidance from experienced instructors. More than just learning techniques, campers develop confidence in their unique artistic voice and discover new ways to think creatively. Whether it's a single session or multiple weeks, each experience is a journey into the limitless world of imagination and self-expression. Join us for a summer filled with art, friendship, and endless inspiration at the Bothwell Arts Center!

Camp Integem

Pleasanton & San Ramon
Camp.Integem.com | (408) 459-0657

Camp Integem is the #1 AI+AR STEM & Art camp for ages 5-18, where kids and teens turn ideas into hands-on creations. Ride a spaceship, meet dinosaurs, design game worlds, and bring art to life. Build AI robots, fly space drones, and launch projects up to 100,000 feet! Explore Holographic AR, AI, robotics, drones, coding, art, animation, and more. ACS WASC accredited and an NVIDIA AI partner. Small classes, no experience needed. Available in 16 locations. Since 2018, thousands have joined. Use code CAMP25 to save — secure your spot now.

Las Positas College Summer Camps

LasPositasCollege.edu/SummerCamps

3D Modeling Camp

• July 7-10 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
• \$150 | Age Group: High School

Want to learn how to make games and motion pictures? Learn basic 3D modeling techniques and animation using Autodesk Maya and Adobe Photoshop Tools.

Animation Camp

• June 30-July 3 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
• \$150 | Age Group: High School

Explore 2D animation, from ideation into asset creation through to animation. Working with industry standard software, we will dabble in some Photoshop before moving into Toonboom Harmony for crafting our animated shorts, where you will have the opportunity to put their creativity to the test!

Automotive Technology Camp

• Session 1: June 30-July 2 | 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
• Session 2: July 7-9 | 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
• \$150 | Age Group: High School

Have you ever wanted to know more about your car but do not have time to take an 18-week course? This camp is for you. Learn how to change your own oil and filter, read the digital code on tires, and gain general knowledge about cars. Learning through experience in our state of the art facility, wear clothes that may get dirty!

Creature Design Workshop

• High School | June 9-12 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
• Middle School | June 23-26 | 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
• \$150

Learn the fundamentals of creature design. Many

professional illustrators focus on creature design; they create works for movies, games, and animation. In this camp, we will use Adobe Photoshop to sketch and paint creatures, taking into consideration their anatomy, environment, and behavior.

Interior Design Camp

• June 23-26 | 10:30 am to 12:30 pm | Live Online Camp
• \$150 | Age Group: Middle and High School

Interested in learning how to decorate homes or become an interior designer? Learn the elements and principles of interior design with an emphasis on the use of color and texture in the selection of home furnishings using a computer aided design (CAD) program.

JAMS Press Pass Journalism Camp

• June 9-12 | 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
• \$150 | Age Group: High School

Interested in entertainment journalism? A career in entertainment journalism might just begin here. This camp will give students an opportunity to try their hand at the craft and gain insight on industry practices. Develop skills including writing, interviewing, storytelling, multimedia reporting, and even debate.

Jazz Camp

• June 23-26 | 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
• \$250 | Age Group: High School

Each summer, we welcome young students of all ability levels to our campus for 4 intensive days where we work on: Improvisation, Music Theory, Performance, Rehearsal, and much more. Campers work directly with LPC Music Faculty and Alumni and present a public performance on the Mertes Main Stage. The theme for the 2025 Jazz Camp will be the music of Benny Golson (1921-2024).

Public Safety Camp

• June 9-13 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
• \$150 | Age Group: High School

Are you ready to embark on an unforgettable adventure that goes beyond the ordinary? Unleash your potential at the Public Safety Summer Camp, designed exclusively for high school students. Join us for a week of excitement, learning, and hands-on experiences.

Stratford School

StratfordSchools.com/Summer

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Gear up for an unforgettable summer where your child will dive into hands-on adventures, explore new interests, master new skills, build meaningful friendships, and create lasting memories!

Our **Day Camps** offer a variety of hands-on activities, including STEAM projects, arts and crafts, team-building exercises, sports, and more. Each week, students in Grades 1-5 jump into action with exciting new themes, exploring science and nature, creating art, building sky-high forts, learning new skills, and playing games with friends. The adventures are endless!

Academic camps provide an excellent opportunity to cultivate your child's passion for learning while concentrating on specific subjects. Whether it's math, robotics, literature, or creative writing, we offer programs to suit every student's interests. Campers will have the chance to work both independently and in small groups, applying real-life experiences to the lessons they learn in the classroom.

Our **Specialty Camps** offer an immersive experience for campers to explore and develop new skills and talents. No matter your child's passion, our diverse range of fun and innovative activities ensures there's something for them. Each camp is filled with opportunities for discovery, creativity, and personal growth, allowing your child to embark on an unforgettable summer camp journey!

Keep your child active, learning, and engaged all summer long with all of the safety measures you expect and the flexibility you need! Sign Up Today! For Stratford Pleasanton Middle School call (925) 621-8908. For Stratford Pleasanton Preschool & Elementary School call (925) 737-0001. Find out more by visiting us online.

Streetwise

ASKED AROUND TOWN

When you find yourself in need of some really good, sage advice, who do you turn to as your 'voice of reason'?



Dawn Tillman

Insurance compliance

I'd have to say my wonderful husband because he always gives the greatest advice, and because we've been married for more than 40 years, nobody knows me better than he does.



Reed Zimpfer, with Charlie

Business analyst

Primarily my dad. He is older and has acquired a lot of wisdom over the years. He also has a very cool head, so he is always able to help me remain calm as well. On account of all of his life experiences, and the breadth and depth of his knowledge, I can almost always trust that he's my go-to guy.



Barb McKay

Business owner

My very best friend Amanda. I always appreciate her candor, and she knows me so very well. Also, she's an Aquarius, and I'm a Pisces, and so I feel like because of that, we really "get" one another.



Todd Tillman

Project manager

Well my beautiful wife, of course. I always, without fail, seek out her sage advice when I find myself in a pickle and not knowing how to best handle it. Because she says I have to, and she always knows best.



Matt Wilhite Sales

Definitely my dad, for sure. Because of his wisdom and attention to detail. He is so good about calling upon his own life experiences that truly help to provide resolution. He is always able to reassure me that whatever problem I'm facing is really not as big as I think it is, and that with the right approach and effort, it can be solved.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

The Pleasanton Weekly is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media Foundation, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 600-0840. Mailed at Periodicals Postage Rate, USPS 020407. The Pleasanton Weekly is mailed upon request to homes and apartments in Pleasanton. However, in order to continue delivering you the news you depend on, we encourage you to become a paid subscribing member. Go to www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join to start supporting the Pleasanton Weekly today.

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DIGEST

Water Open House

The city's water supply, current and future water projects, and ways to conserve are the central themes for the Pleasanton Water Open House set for this Saturday (March 1) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Veterans Memorial Building on Main Street.

The event, free and open to the public, will include "interactive exhibits on water supply, quality and conservation; live demonstrations of water management equipment; information on customer service resources and water projects; and fun activities for all ages," according to city officials.

More information at Pleasanton Water.com.

Fly Fishing Show

The Pleasanton Fly Fishing Show is back at the Alameda County Fairgrounds this Friday through Sunday.

"The weekend-long ode to fly fishing will include classes, seminars and demonstrations, together with wall-to-wall displays of everything that's new in the sport from rods and reels to boots, waders, personal watercraft and the vacation destinations to use them," organizers said while also touting more than \$100,000 worth of door prizes.

To learn more, visit flyfishingshow.com/pleasanton-ca or call 814-443-3638.

The Livermore Half

Distance runners who enjoy a route with the sights of downtown and wine country — plus a little fun afterward — are getting ready for the 11th annual Livermore Valley Half & 5K on Sunday.

The races will start at 7:30 a.m. (half marathon) and 8:20 a.m. (5K), respectively. The kids race will get underway at 10:30 a.m. The Beer and Wine Festival afterparty will follow on race day.

The weekend will also feature a packet pickup event at Altamont Brewing from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Friday and the Wellness & Wine Pop-Up at McGrail Vineyards from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Visit livermorevalleyhalf.com.

Rapid Route 30

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority last week implemented weekday schedule modifications for the Rapid Route 30 in the Wheels bus system.

Designed to improve on-time performance ... The new schedule adjusts Route 30 timing for better systemwide reliability and connectivity to Wheels local services and partner agencies," LAVTA officials said ahead of the Feb. 18 start date.

New timetables are available at wheelsbus.com/rt30r, via the Transit App, and posted on all buses and at the Livermore Transit Center, officials said. Weekend times were not changed. ■

Council budget talks underscore city's current financial standing

Recent discussions include 10-year financial forecast, update on last year's budget actuals

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

While the city of Pleasanton is in the throes of developing its new two-year budget, recent public meetings provided residents with an affirmation on the accuracy of the city's financial forecast, adjustments made to the midyear budget and the audited financial statements for last year's budget.

However, a recent Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting also provided a preview of some

of the difficult budget-related discussions on the horizon as city staff explained how the committee will have to work over the next few months to identify \$10 million in budget reductions that will eventually be presented to the council for approval.

"We've created a menu of options with about \$14.7 million of potential reductions ... we asked every department to contribute," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said during the BAC meeting on Feb.

13. "Of that \$14.7 million, we have identified about \$3.3 million of ... operational or administrative support. Those dollars are things that we will very likely be recommending and would start to eat into the \$10 million."

Staff have been warning residents and the City Council about a \$10 million structural deficit the city is facing every year with the possibility of it going up to \$22 million if a recession occurs. Those numbers were originally outlined

in Pleasanton's 10-year Financial Forecast, a model which uses revenue and expenditure assumptions to help cities plan out their long-term financial health.

In that general fund 10-year financial forecast, city officials projected a yearly budget shortfall starting at \$10,788,817 in 2026, with that number rising as high as \$15,678,578 in 2030.

In order to address the deficit,

See **BUDGET** on Page 9



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Maurice Dissels, executive chef and founder of Oyo, prepares a classic Peruvian dish called lomo saltado at the beginning of the restaurant's lunch shift on Feb. 18.

A melting pot of South American cuisine

Oyo expands downtown after years of success

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Maurice Dissels said his culinary career started at his grandmother's knees back in his home country of Guyana. Coming from a large family filled with many brothers, sisters and cousins, he wanted to find a way to be first in line for dinner, which is why he became grandma's little kitchen helper.

As he reflected on his years of success with his restaurant Oyo in downtown Pleasanton, he thought about how proud he is to not just run a successful business that was able to recently expand

its size, but to also be able to share his grandmother's food and his culture with the world.

"It's been a dream of mine, ever since culinary school, to introduce the world to my cuisine," Dissels told the Weekly.

Born and raised in British Guiana (as it was then known) on the northern coast of South America, Dissels began his career studying the culinary arts with a strong background in Cajun and Caribbean cuisine and food science before he moved to the United States where he honed his skills at a culinary institute in Chicago before moving on to

working at restaurants throughout the country.

Eventually, he moved his way to the Bay Area where he worked for restaurants such as Pasta Cuisine in Orinda, the Historical Pleasanton Hotel where he served as executive chef for 8 years, 840 North First, and Birk's Restaurant where he was the executive chef for over 16 years.

At every restaurant, he said he always took some sense of ownership and when he moved to working in sales for Birk's Restaurant, he was able to begin

See **OYO** on Page 8

ICE eyes vacated Dublin prison

Reps send stern opposition letter raising concerns

By JEANITA LYMAN

Less than a year after the federal women's prison referred to internally as a "rape club" was shuttered amid investigations and lawsuits over conditions at the site and the treatment of the women it housed, officials are reportedly now eying it as an immigration detention center.

According to reporting from KTVU, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) authorities conducted a tour of the Federal Correctional Institution Dublin site at 5701 8th St. on Feb. 13, months after its closure in 2024 amid high-profile findings of systemic sexual abuse and exploitation and other hazardous conditions.

The news garnered a response from lawmakers this week, with Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) co-authoring a letter alongside South Bay Rep. Zoe Lofgren on Feb. 25 addressing the heads of the Department of Homeland Security, the Bureau of Prisons and ICE expressing concerns and asking for more information about reported plans for the future of the FCI Dublin site.

In addition to "an intractable culture of sexual abuse and retaliation" that has been the center of media and government investigations into FCI Dublin and its ultimate

See **ICE** on Page 7

AD Sbranti leaving Dublin High for union post

Stalwart at DHS shifts to part-time ahead of resignation at end of sports year

By JUDE STRZEMP

Dublin High School is starting to recruit for a new athletic director, given longtime Gael and former mayor Tim Sbranti's full departure from the role by early June.

Having served as AD at his alma mater since fall 2018, Sbranti began working reduced hours Feb. 1 at his request. Sbranti's formal resignation will become effective when DHS finds a replacement AD or when the school year ends, whichever comes first, he said.

Meanwhile, Sbranti is active in his new role as executive director of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council, where he works to represent the interests of about 35,000 construction trade workers in the county.

The council is an affiliate of the State Building and Construction

Trades Council of California and even larger, the North America's Building Trades Unions. At the state-level, the council aims to improve the jobs, safety, health and economic conditions of its affiliate members and all those in the construction industry, according to its website.

Sbranti said he welcomes the career transition, given his accumulation of experience as a former mayor and city councilmember in Dublin and trustee for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, as well as his time as a teacher and coach.

"It's a different field, but given my background in education, workforce development, policy work, political



Tim Sbranti

work, public affairs, community relations, all those things are rolled into the position," Sbranti said.

The AD role at DHS has been demanding, filled with long evenings and weekends of work, but enjoyable nevertheless, according to Sbranti.

"I loved my time," he told the Weekly. "It was a great position."

To Dublin High principal Maureen Byrne, Sbranti has embodied what it means to be a Gael.

"He played a pivotal role in elevating the quality of Dublin High athletics and the perception of the school as a force on a local, regional and state level," Byrne said.

As for the director position, Sbranti said it is a new opportunity to do something different. The job includes promoting the trades as a career path and building the bridge from apprenticeship and

journeymen to jobs.

"I like the fact that it allows me to work in the educational space — working with schools, working with community colleges — but also to work with employers," Sbranti said.

Prior to becoming the AD at DHS, Sbranti started as a teacher and coach at the school in 1998.

Meanwhile he served as a Dublin City Council member, starting in 2002, and became the city's mayor in 2008. Sbranti, a Democrat, campaigned for the State Assembly District 16 seat in 2014 but lost to Republican Catharine Baker in the general election.

In 2015, he left DHS and became deputy chief of staff and district director for his former Dublin City Council colleague, U.S. Rep. Eric Swalwell. By summer 2018, Sbranti stepped down from that role in favor of a local job to help raise his young

daughter. At that point, he returned to DHS to lead Gael athletics as AD.

While working as the AD, he also served on the CLPCCD Board of Trustees, representing Area 5 from 2019 to 2024.

Of his new union role in Contra Costa County, Sbranti said, "It just seemed to be a good use of my experiences and knowledge that I've been able to build up through some of those different sectors."

Sbranti's transition to a part-time status and his future resignation was approved by the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees at its regular meeting Feb. 11.

"We were incredibly lucky to have had a former Dublin High student, teacher, coach, and city mayor in this role, and we are thankful for all he has done for countless Gael athletes and our school community," Byrne said. ■

LVJUSD board approves employee reductions

Approximately 40 full-time equivalents to be slashed amid budget woes

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education agreed to eliminate about 40 full-time equivalents during a tenuous meeting last week, in attempts to address a \$6 million general fund deficit.

Positions on the chopping block include 1.0 FTE certificated librarian, 2.0 FTE counselor, 2.0 FTE teacher on special assignment, 7.0 FTE multiple subject teacher, 2.6 FTE psychologist, 1.0 FTE network technician, 1.0 FTE aquatics

coordinator, 1.0 FTE bond program administrator, 1.0 FTE communications specialist and many more.

It is not yet determined how many people will be laid off as a result of the budget reductions.

Preliminary layoff notices will be sent by March 15, in accordance with the law. But some of those may be rescinded, depending on attrition and the amount of non-personnel reductions, Superintendent Torie Gibson explained.

The intended eliminations are meant to help the school district

meet its 3% reserves requirement.

All trustees agreed at the meeting Feb. 18, even preliminarily cutting positions was challenging. But in the end, Trustee Craig Bueno was the only dissenting vote in a 4-1 decision to terminate select classified and certificated positions.

"While we'll always strive for thoughtful and thorough decision-making, the reality is there will always be differing opinions on whether we have done enough or taken the right approach," Board President Emily Prusso said.

To Livermore Education Association President Aimee Thompson, she didn't expect the need to issue layoff notices to LEA members, given the number of resignations and retirements as well as temporary contracts and contract workers.

Also the district must reprioritize its budget to offer competitive compensation to union members including teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologists, speech pathologists, social workers and teachers on special assignment, she said. No compensation increase, as the district offered in January is not acceptable to the union.

To kick off the board discussion, Bueno asked how reducing psychologists would impact the district's ability to serve its students.

"We will be able to serve all our students," assistant superintendent of special education Kelly Manke said. By the district's calculations, they are currently overstaffed with school psychologists.

Bueno then asked if school psychologists feel they can take on the work of laid off employees.

"I think in any position, everybody would like more of anything. But I think they understand where we are. I think that they understand the extra that we have as well that can be absorbed by what we are currently doing," Manke said.

The district is also looking to lower workload by reducing the initial referrals to special education, because those take significant time. There are resources available without going through the referral process, Manke said.

She added, if calculations show greater need, the district could hire

or maintain more psychologists.

"Meeting (needs) on paper and meeting the needs of students are two different things," Trustee Steven Drouin said.

Bueno added, "We're dealing with some of our most vulnerable people that are under care. We're kind of taking a quantum leap, that we're making the assumption that we're going to be able to work through it."

In a turn of topic, Drouin asked what would happen if the board decided to keep all the employees.

The district would continue to deficit spend and maintain its qualified status, Gibson said.

Under a qualified certification for its 2023-24 budget, the California Department of Education determined the district might not be able to meet its financial obligations two years out.

Overall, the district's financial situation would worsen, assistant superintendent of business services Kayla Wasley added. More specifically, the district would likely move into a negative certification, meaning the district would be unlikely to meet its financial obligations in the next year and the reserve would drop to about 0.73%. This would also mean additional oversight by outside agencies into the district.

"My family owes several hundreds of thousands of dollars for our house. We're in debt regarding that. Why can't our district do that to maintain and meet the needs of the students?" Drouin asked rhetorically.

Drouin added, these reductions cut into student needs and benefits.

Trustee Christiaan VandenHeuvel later likened the situation to being

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Director reflects on success of apprenticeship program

Allows PUSD students to work with real companies in areas such as cybersecurity and robotics

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

This spring, several Pleasanton Unified School District high school students will be the first to complete a new youth apprenticeship program that PUSD touts as the first of its kind in California.

The program, which allows students to work with companies in the areas of cybersecurity and robotics, is entering its second year and according to Amos Nugent III, director of career pathways and adult learning at PUSD, the plan is to continue growing the number of student and business participants.

"These programs are important because it solves the workforce development needs for local businesses while giving students hands-on, real-world learning experiences that bring their classroom learning to life," Nugent said. "Through this

process, students become well-prepared for life and a successful future whether they plan to go to college, into a career or some combination of the two after graduating high school."

In June 2024, the district launched its first-ever "competency-based youth apprenticeships" program specifically for high school students in the district's career technical education (CTE) program.

The youth apprenticeships use a competency-based model of teaching, which focuses on students demonstrating their skills and knowledge.

According to Nugent, during the 2022-23 school year PUSD's Career Pathways and Adult Learning Department and the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce had discussed ways to address certain

'PUSD is the first organization in the state to implement this new option in this way, therefore our program is a blueprint for the entire state.'

Amos Nugent III,

Director of career pathways and adult learning at PUSD

issues like workforce shortages and housing shortages by involving students.

Eventually, one organization within the chamber agreed to partner with PUSD to develop a youth apprenticeship. According

to California's Department of Industrial Relations, registered apprenticeship programs for youth "combine academic and technical classroom instruction with paid work experience through a proven earn-and-learn model".

"It provides the foundation for youth to choose from a number of pathways across a wide range of industry sectors and transferable skills to the workforce," according to the department's website.

PUSD was then awarded an initial California Apprenticeship Initiative planning grant to hire a coordinator in order to begin the work of implementing the apprenticeship program, which Nugent said is now the first of its kind in the state.

"PUSD is the first organization in the state to implement this new option in this way, therefore our

program is a blueprint for the entire state that can be replicated by other people and organizations to produce similar outcomes for their students," he said.

After several meetings during that 2022-23 school year, the original employer who helped launch the program identified cybersecurity and robotics engineering as two workforce sectors where students could be hired as apprentices.

Then in October, PUSD successfully registered both year-long apprenticeships in the state and in January, the district also registered the two with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Originally, the apprenticeship program began with four apprentices but with different employers

See **APPRENTICESHIP** on Page 9

Bill seeks to help clean up 'forever chemicals' from water supply

McNerney's SB 454 would create 'PFAS Mitigation Fund' overseen by state board

By KILEY RUSSELL /
BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A new bill by a Tri-Valley state senator aims to create a special fund to help clean up so-called "forever chemicals" in California's water supply.

Senate Bill 454 was introduced by Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) on Feb. 18 and, if passed by the State Legislature and signed by the governor, would create the "PFAS Mitigation Fund".

The fund would be managed by the State Water Resources Control Board and be used by drinking water agencies and other local jurisdictions to help remove the widespread toxic chemicals from water supplies.

It is co-sponsored by the League of California Cities and the Association of California Water Agencies.

"California has banned PFAS in consumer products ranging from

food packaging and cosmetics to children's cribs and playpens. But PFAS has been used in thousands of products during the past eight decades, so forever chemicals have contaminated a substantial portion of our drinking water," McNerney said. "SB 454 would create a much-needed funding tool to help local agencies pay for PFAS cleanup, while also helping protect ratepayers from higher costs."

The bill doesn't earmark or

identify state funding sources but does authorize the Water Board to seek state, federal and private dollars for the fund, which could provide water suppliers and wastewater system operators with grants or loans.

If signed into law, SB 454 would take effect on Jan. 1, 2026.

PFAS, chemicals containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, linger in the environment for hundreds of thousands of years, according to

environmental health experts.

In April 2024, the Water Board announced it was expanding testing for PFAS chemicals to 4,000 wells in some of the poorest communities in California.

Also, over the past five years, it has tested and collected data on about 3,000 wells from community water systems near industries associated with PFAS use, including near airports, landfills and industrial corridors. ■

ICE

Continued from Page 5

closure, DeSaulnier and Lofgren pointed to concerns over "critical infrastructure, safety and environmental deficiencies" that remain at the site even after its closure.

"There is no question that the physical facilities at FCI Dublin have degraded to the point where they are not fit for use," DeSaulnier and Lofgren wrote.

They pointed to testimony from the BOP's acting director William Lothrop in a court hearing last year that repairs and updates to the facility to make it habitable would cost tens of millions of dollars.

"By BOP's own admittance, FCI Dublin simply is not safe for habitation, and as such it should be closed to any and all inhabitants or government purposes," DeSaulnier and Lofgren wrote.

In addition, they noted that "FCI Dublin is also not equipped to serve as an immigration detention center."

"The prison has historically housed post-conviction individuals serving criminal sentences. Immigration detainees, on the

other hand, are involved in ongoing legal proceedings and they have a constitutional right to communicate with legal counsel, a requirement that FCI Dublin has neither the space nor the infrastructure to meet," DeSaulnier and Lofgren wrote. "As Bureau officials confirmed in federal litigation regarding insufficient legal access at the facility, FCI Dublin does not have private attorney meeting spaces or sufficient legal phone or video call capacity."

While serving as an ICE facility would be a new and unprecedented development for FCI Dublin, DeSaulnier and Lofgren pointed to a history of abuse and exploitation of immigrants at the site that was documented as part of investigations into its "rape club" reputation.

"The cruelty of housing detainees at a facility that before its closure had been dubbed a 'Rape Club' due to years of horrendous sexual abuse of incarcerated people—dozens of whom were immigrant women—by prison staff cannot be ignored," DeSaulnier and Lofgren wrote.

"It is well documented that some prison staff intentionally preyed on

immigrant women and threatened to retaliate against individuals who reported their abusers by working to get them deported," they continued.

They added that cases of abuse of inmates by prison staff are "endemic" to both BOP and ICE facilities, "and just as we cannot risk the harm the facilities would have on detainees, the federal government should be doing everything in its power to also reduce the risks of abuse."

Lofgren and DeSaulnier requested that federal authorities provide them with further information by March 5 about any plans to use the facility for ICE purposes or reopen it for any reason, copies of security and infrastructure assessments referred to by Lothrop in court — which they said they understood "had been shared with ICE for a purpose that has not yet been made public" — and how former FCI Dublin staff who had not perpetuated abuse in the facility were being assisted by the BOP following their displacement with the prison's closure.

Meanwhile, organizers from a number of groups including the

Dublin Prison Solidarity Coalition, the California Coalition for Women Prisoners, the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, and the Dignity not Detention Coalition are gearing up for a protest at the site on Saturday (March 1) from noon to 1 p.m.

"There are currently no ICE detention centers in California north of McFarland/Bakersfield due to

a decade of organizing to close detention centers," organizers with Bay Resistance said in the event description. "Let's not let them open one up here or anywhere!"

Spokespeople for the BOP and the local chapter of American Federation of Government Employees Council of Prison had not responded to requests for comment as of Tuesday evening. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

City Council Meetings

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Workshop at 5 p.m.

- Accept the Water Enterprise financial analysis and approve the Enhance scenario

Regular Meeting at 7 p.m.

- Continued from February 20, 2025 - Receive presentation on fiscal years 2025/26 and 2026/27 General Fund baseline budget and preliminary ten-year financial forecast
- Receive report and presentation on City's CalPERS and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Funding Actuarial Analysis and provide feedback

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

The Burgundy Rose Tearoom opens in Livermore

Offerings include over 30 teas, pastries, sandwiches, soups and salads

By JUDE STRZEMP

Full-service afternoon tea is now available in Livermore at The Burgundy Rose Tearoom, following its grand opening this month.

Located at 4549 Livermore Outlets Drive, the new business serves 35

different teas with accompaniments like small salads, soups, tea sandwiches, scones and pastries.

Items can be ordered à la carte, but during an afternoon or high tea service, beverages and small bites are combined for a 90-minute or two hour experience.

“I was so happy and overwhelmed with the loving support from the community, Chamber of Commerce and the members of city government that showed their support,” tearoom owner Georgette Christopher said of the grand opening on Feb. 13.

Among the beverage options

to explore at The Burgundy Rose Tearoom are Earl Grey Moonlight, Irish Breakfast, Mango Melange, Peppermint and Golden Monkey.

In addition to small bites like fresh scones and tea sandwiches, customers can order lunchtime sandwiches like the chicken pesto mozzarella, caprese

or hummus and classic BLT. Light breakfast will also be available in the coming months, Christopher said.

Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are recommended for guaranteed seating.

For more information, visit theburgundyrosetearoom.com. ■

LVJUSD

Continued from Page 6

guided across a river and being told it is waist-deep water.

“We really have to trust that this is going to affect very few people but that’s all we can go by. We just don’t know,” VandenHeuvel said. “This feels very overwhelming because behind each one of these is a person, is a name, is somebody who does an amazing job.”

But he praised the work of district staff and expressed hope for non-personnel cuts to take the place of position reductions.

Prusso expressed a similar outlook for the coming months. “I’m holding onto hope that once we do this, we can dig into some of the expenditures that are not related to people’s jobs,” Prusso said.

Next up, was the decision to cut classified employees.

“Behind each classification is a dedicated employee whose life will be changed forever by the decisions that you make this evening,” California School Employees Association President Mamie Kristovich said.

CSEA represents classified employees including executive assistants, facilities and network technicians and office specialists.

LVJUSD network technician Allan Platon joined the conversation during public comment to request the maintenance of his role. “I ask for your support to retain my position, which directly impacts the safety, efficiency and financial wellbeing of this district,” Platon said.

Kristovich also expressed concern over the lack of employee

involvement in the decision-making process.

“If there is a plan to mitigate the loss of all these jobs without violating our collective bargaining agreement, it has not been shared with CSEA or employees,” Kristovich said.

Of particular concern is the elimination of a transportation specialist from the special education department. That elimination would cause a serious contractual violation, Kristovich said. Work cannot be reassigned between classifications without negotiations.

“If CSEA is not supporting it because of the concerns they’ve expressed, I have reservations,” Bueno responded. “Their concerns seem to be valid.”

His comment was met with audience applause.

Before the district can work with CSEA leadership, the board must approve the reductions, Gibson explained. There will be time to work with CSEA leadership before final layoff notices are required.

Prusso and staff clarified that moving duties from CSEA to LEA leadership is not possible nor part of the plan.

To keep the decisions fair between the unions, Prusso said she supported approving the CSEA reductions.

But Bueno said he couldn’t approve the reduction. Following an approval of cuts, he worried about the inability to reach a decision with CSEA.

To wrap up the discussion Drouin said, “I’m not as optimistic that everything on here is up for grabs — that we’re going to find \$6 million worth of savings in toilet paper.

Many of these positions are going to go away. But I think there is room for flexibility between now and May.”

In an identical vote to the certificated positions, the district’s intention to cut select classified positions was passed 4-1.

Bueno’s dissent was once again met with applause.

In addition to the intended staff cuts, the board discussed potential non-personnel reductions at a special meeting Feb. 13. The proposed reductions included elimination of DocuSign in exchange for free Google services, elimination of a research database within IB for free databases and the reduction of school site allocations. Fund shifting was also proposed for some supplies and staff in ELOP as well as custodial costs within adult education. ■

OYO

Continued from Page 5

drawing up plans of opening his own restaurant.

And in 2019, he and his family did just that by creating Oyo, which is an endearing nickname for Dissels’ maternal grandmother.

Nestled in on the north side of Pleasanton’s Main Street, Dissels opened the restaurant with his two sons, Sam and Leicester. While he acknowledged the fact that Oyo is run and owned by a Black family — and that there aren’t many similar businesses in the city — he said didn’t open it motivated to become the best Black-owned restaurant.

“We set out, first and foremost, to create a great restaurant ... for every guest, every time,” Dissels said. “(Us) being Black is incidental.”

While they prepared for the struggle of opening a new restaurant, nothing could have prepared them for the tremendous support they received from the community since they opened their doors.

“We knew from day one that we would be successful,” Dissels said. “We just never banked on it being this successful!”

Dissels described Guyanese cuisine as a melting pot of food because it is a mixture of roughly seven different cultures that coexisted for thousands of years including East India, West Africa, Portuguese, Chinese, British, Venezuelan and Brazilian.

“Over the years, that formed a

culture ... seven different languages, seven different cultures coexisted ... the cuisine reflects that,” he said. “When you are eating Guyanese food, you’re eating food from Trinidad and Tobago. You’re eating Jamaican cuisine. You’re eating Indian, you’re eating African.”

Dissels said he always felt like being from Guyana was a gift because even though he was classically trained in the culinary arts, being able to draw from an almost hidden cuisine that not many people have heard of helped him and his business really stand out.

He said while that cultural diversity is reflected in his menu, they have always tried to make their food approachable.

He said Oyo originally started with a plethora of different food ideas but he wanted to introduce

the Pleasanton and Tri-Valley community to Guyanese food in such a way that they could recognize certain dishes like salmon or short ribs before realizing just how different they prepare them at Oyo.

“We lean on those dishes that would translate to the demographic, to the general palette in Pleasanton,” Dissels said.

Sam Dissels, Maurice’s son and general manager at Oyo, also pointed out that the restaurant’s success, in part, comes from the community wanting to try something new.

However, as a born and raised Pleasanton native, he also said he felt like the restaurant’s success also came from the community where he grew up.

“With us opening there was a sense of the community wanting us to succeed,” Sam Dissels said.



CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Oyo is a restaurant that specializes in Guyanese cuisine, which according to the owner is its own melting pot of different types of South American food such as this lomo saltado.

While the restaurant faced some minor challenges over the years — not learning early on about the financial aspects of running a business — the father and son said they have continued to see immense growth and success to the point where they were recently able to expand their business.

Dissels said expansion was always part of the plan since day one and when Clover Creek, which had been a longtime staple of Pleasanton’s downtown for over 30 years, decided to vacate their previous home at 670 Main St. back in September 2023 in order to move near the Raley’s store on Sunol Boulevard, they jumped at the opportunity.

It took most of 2024 but eventually in December, the Dissels family unveiled its new look to the public. Apart from additional seating, they were able to get more storage space and additional restrooms.

“The opulence of the place really overwhelms people in the most beautiful way,” Dissels said.

Dissels said while the locals in Pleasanton have always been supportive of his business, it has been nice to see his restaurant become a destination for folks coming in from as far away as Santa Cruz and Stockton, which he said goes to show how successful they have become.

“We couldn’t tell you, with any accuracy, who our core clientele is ... it’s every demographic,” Dissels said.

But he still felt really thankful for Pleasanton for not just being a home for his family, but for the community’s continued support of his restaurant, which was shown as recently as this week when he has been named a featured chef for Taste Tri-Valley Restaurant Week, which runs until Sunday.

“The PDA is thrilled by the expansion of Oyo in Downtown,” Laura Brooks, interim executive director for the Pleasanton Downtown Association, told the Weekly. “Seeing the growing success of this incredible (and delicious!) restaurant is a testament to the hard work and creative vision of the owner and executive chef, Maurice Dissels. He is so passionate about the food they make, and you can truly taste that in his dishes.”

Dissels and his two sons also reminisced about how rewarding it has been to not just see the business thrive and expand, but to be able to provide for themselves and their family thanks to that success.

“It’s hard work, but it’s rewarding work because it’s always for us,” Leicester Dissels, the bar manager, told the Weekly.

For dad specifically, he also said he just enjoys being able to give back to the city that helped raise his two sons.

“When I work, I know I’m supporting my family, I know I’m supporting my community,” Dissels said. “I’m just doing something positive, something fun and enjoyable for the community.” ■

BUDGET

Continued from Page 5

the previous City Council placed Measure PP — a half-cent sales tax increase — on last November's ballot as a way to increase the city's revenue by approximately \$10 million every year. But during the last election cycle, many opponents of Measure PP criticized the accuracy of the financial forecast and the measure ultimately failed to pass.

The concerns raised by those against Measure PP prompted Mayor Jack Balch to lead the initiative at the Jan. 9 council meeting to have a third-party consultant assess the city's financial forecast and evaluate its assumptions of Pleasanton's financial health in order to build trust with the public.

The independent review by Menlo Park-based accounting firm Eide Bailly acted as an affirmation of the city's bleak budget projections and "underscores the need for ongoing expenditure reductions to maintain long-term financial stability," as noted in the Feb. 13 BAC meeting report.

"This independent study is one step forward," Vice Mayor Jeff Nibert said. "We still have a lot of work to do and I think now is the time (to work) in concert with the community to get on with the work."

At the Feb. 18 special council workshop, Balch said he appreciated the independent, professional review of the forecast and that he believed it did in fact help put to rest some of the distrust within the community.

"We had a divided community related to the sales tax measure and we needed to try and find a way forward for reconciliation between our community members," Balch said during the Feb. 18 meeting. "I think the report is very valuable. It's extremely transparent as to what we can still do, what options exist, what we should explore, how we can communicate better and open it up so that our community is aware."

According to the presentation from Eide Bailly, the city's financial forecast uses an appropriate and standard methodology common in California local governments. The consultants also did not find any

reasons for the city to deviate from its short-term property tax and sales tax growth rate assumptions, which were another point of contention for residents who criticized the financial forecast.

According to the No on Measure PP campaign, the city has been exaggerating things like its projected property tax revenues.

Councilmember Julie Testa, who initially did not agree with the council's decision to pay for the consultants to do this assessment of the forecast, had a change of heart on Feb. 18 when she saw how important the report was in showing residents that the city's projections and assumptions were accurate.

"I wasn't very supportive of another consultant to do this," Testa said. "And yet, having the report I understand the value that it brings ... it's really a good tool, a valuable tool for our community to have that confidence (with the city)."

The consultants did make some recommendations in their report that they reviewed during the Feb. 18 meeting which largely centered on ways the city could better communicate the complex and moving parts of its budget challenges as the city continues building its 10-year financial forecast and two-year budget.

In short, the consultants thought the city could do a better job summarizing the key points of a budget-related discussion in their agenda reports for readers to quickly and easily digest the information while also providing full and detailed reports separately for those who want to spend the time looking at the details.

While the report further pointed out that the city's resources are constrained and that its long-term funding needs are significant, it also recommends that the city should begin discussion on developing a plan to draw down from its Section 115 Pension Trust Fund specifically for pension and other post-employment benefits (OPEB) costs.

They suggested that city staff look at when it will be appropriate to draw from those funds and that the city include those trust fund withdrawals in its financial forecast.

Testa, however, clarified that the

discussion will not be to use that money right now, but instead it will be about refining city policy to say when the city will plan to use it.

Staff said at the special workshop meeting that the city will be bringing an actuary to the March 4 meeting to discuss best practices for using the city's trust fund.

In other business

- During the Feb. 18 regular council meeting the council approved staff's midyear budget update, which included updated revenue and expenditure projections, and accepted several amendments to last fiscal year's budget.

Finance director Susan Hsieh told the council following approval of staff's recommendations, the city's general fund revenue and expenditure totals will increase by \$2.6 million and half a million dollars, respectively, which staff said will produce a "year-end revenue over expenditure net total of \$6,832".

Hsieh also said the city's budget is currently balanced with \$3.1 million in capital reserve.

According to her presentation, there has been a recent increase in property and hotel tax revenue which means the city's total general fund revenue is projected to increase by 1.4% from fiscal year 2023-24 — the low number is correlated with slow growth in sales tax revenue.

Hsieh said despite the recent Costco opening, sales tax is expected to decrease by \$200,000 from the budget that was approved back in May. However, she did say hotel tax and franchise fees are expected to go up by \$700,000.

Expenditures, on the other hand, are projected to increase by 8.4% from fiscal year 2023-24 due to increase in salaries and benefits, Hsieh said.

She noted the \$1.1 million in funds set aside for annual salary changes based on cost-of-living adjustments and performance reviews for the management and confidential employee group that were recommended to be removed, with no salary adjustments planned in fiscal year 2024-25.

Balch said the increase in unrestricted reserves, use of one-time

money and offsetting expenses in the city's capital improvement program — all of which were discussed during Hsieh's presentation — were significant and he hopes the city could continue in this positive direction.

"I look at this update and I'm actually very encouraged for Pleasanton," Balch said. "Revenues have exceeded initial expectations by \$2.6 million ... and our hotel tax is beginning to rebound. Let's hope it sustains those legs."

- The council unanimously accepted the city's audited financial statements for 2024, which further delved into the city's financials during the 2024 year.

"The general fund reserves are growing," Balch said. "In 2019 our reserve was \$29.6 million. Our general fund reserve is now \$62 million — that is partially restricted — \$33.9 million unassigned ... so we're having a good trend line there."

Balch and Councilmember Craig Eicher were both on the audit committee and had reviewed the findings prior to the Feb. 18 meeting where Hsieh went over capital assets investments, pension and OPEB liabilities and how once again, the city produces a clean report — which Nibert said he thought was the most important aspect of the presentation. ■

Patricia Ellen Albert

November 20, 1936 – February 10, 2025

Patricia "Pat" Albert, 88, passed away on Feb. 10, 2025 in Pleasanton, CA.

Born Nov. 20, 1936 in Philadelphia, PA, Pat was known for her kind & generous spirit, her unshakeable Catholic faith, and her devotion to friends & family.

At 19 years old "Patsy" married her sweetheart James "Jim" Albert on June 30, 1956 after his military service in Japan during the Korean War. They were both graduates of West Catholic High School. They had 5 children, 2 daughters, then 3 sons, all still married to their original spouses, a tribute to the love witnessed between parents, Pat & Jim.

MaryPat Albert, 67, married to Jeff Repine, 1 son David Repine 37 (Dave recently lost his wife & baby Zoey due to pregnancy complications, the baby's middle name was Patricia in honor of Gram).

Daughter Sue Couls, 65, married to Keith Couls, son Kris Couls married to Megan with 2 young girls, Kaelyn & Kayce. Kelsey married to Matt Bohle, daughter Ellie just celebrated 1st birthday with her Great-Gram. Both daughters and family live in Livermore.

Oldest son Jim, 64, wife Pam & their 3 daughters. Caitlin & Frank Esposito have 2 young sons Mason & Lucas. Brittany & Alex Bru and their sweet toddler Ari all loved being with Gram. Newlyweds Jane & Brandon Slattengren are expecting a daughter in June. All live in the Tri-Delta area.

Son Bill, 59 & wife Virginie have 2 college-age daughters, Juliette & Sophie all live in Indiana.

Youngest son Joe, 57 & wife Deb recently moved from Chico, CA to Boise, ID where daughter Lauren lives. Son Nick lives in Chico engaged to Chloe, and oldest son Ben will soon marry Hannah.

Pat lived for her 5 kids, their spouses, 11 grandkids & her great grandchildren. In 1978, the family moved from South Jersey to Danville, CA. The house was a haven for any East Coast relatives making a trip to CA. They loved entertaining and being tour guides for any and all visitors.

In 1999, Jim & Pat moved from Danville to Summerset in Brentwood. They both made friends easily. After Jim died in 2007, Pat stayed busy with Church, volunteer work, crocheting and card games with friends.

Five months ago, Pat downsized further to Merrill Gardens. Her friend, Ethel has passed away and Mom was able to move into her former apartment. Recently, Pat's health declined, she had a few trips in & out of the hospital. Pat passed peacefully on February 10. We all imagine her being welcomed into Heaven, reuniting with Jim and hearing Jesus say "Well done good and faithful servant".

A celebration of her life will be held March 3 at 11 AM at Holy Cross Cemetery Chapel, Antioch CA.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to St. Jude's Children's Hospital would honor her memory.

PAID OBITUARY

APPRENTICESHIP

Continued from Page 7

than the one that originally helped create the program.

Since then, Nugent said PUSD had worked with the chamber to build a "district-wide work based learning program that resulted in 84% of business engagement survey respondents being open to offering opportunities to students, 13 businesses hosting students, and 17 students being placed in a work based learning opportunity."

"We currently have two active employers who are partnering with us, California Business Technology and

Kensington Laboratories," Nugent said.

He said the apprenticeships are available to any high school student who is currently enrolled in the associated CTE pathway and are either on track to completing or have already completed the pathway.

"This means the student will take all CTE classes for that pathway in order according to the established two or three year sequence," he said. "In this case, we are referring to our computer science and engineering pathways."

As far as funding goes, Nugent said PUSD is not concerned about losing the apprenticeship program

amid recent district budget cut discussions mainly because it is primarily funded by multiple grants the district received through the California Apprenticeship Initiative, which is administered by the California Community Colleges.

In fact, he said the district is actively looking for more local businesses who want to participate so they can "expand this program and make it available for students in all CTE pathways."

Nugent said the district will be presenting its story on the dual-registered youth apprenticeships at an upcoming state conference for CTE in Sacramento in March. ■

POLICE BULLETIN

Dublin High brawl sends two students to hospital, locks down campus

Dublin High School was locked down last week after a fight involving three students sent two of them to hospitals and attracted a crowd of 50 to 100 students.

At 11:52 a.m. Feb. 20, Dublin police received a report of a fight involving multiple students at the school on Village Parkway.

The caller told police 50 to 100 students gathered around the altercation in the student union.

Arriving police discovered one student lost consciousness during the brawl but regained full awareness and function before police arrived. That student and another were transported to nearby hospitals for evaluation and treatment.

Police said that afternoon that the injuries appeared to be minor.

A third student involved wasn't

detained but was identified by police.

Investigators are still looking into the motive behind the fight. As a precautionary measure, police said officers placed the campus on lockdown to ensure student safety.

Police said at 2:30 p.m. that the lockdown had been lifted and there was no further immediate threat to the school.

"While we are incredibly disappointed in the students who caused the altercation, we are also frustrated by the many students who chose to video the altercation rather than disperse when asked, making it difficult for staff to intervene," Dublin High administrators wrote in an email to the campus community that afternoon.

"Once the incident is investigated thoroughly and those involved are identified, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken," the school added.

Anyone with information or video footage of the fight can

contact police at 925-833-6670.

—Story by Tony Hicks of Bay City News Service, with contributed information from Pleasanton Weekly editor Cierra Bailey.

In other news

- A driver blazing a trail in the triple digits down Interstate 580 in the Tri-Valley last week was ultimately caught with bags and bags of marijuana and a large stash of cash, according to the California Highway Patrol.

A CHP-Dublin officer stopped a 2018 Honda Accord just before 10 p.m. Feb. 19 after reportedly clocking the car at more than 100 mph on westbound I-580.

"Upon contacting the driver, the officer noticed a strong odor of marijuana and observed multiple trash bags filled with marijuana in plain view," CHP officials said.

After a second CHP unit arrived to assist, a subsequent search of the sedan revealed approximately 270 pounds of marijuana and \$36,703 in cash, according to authorities. The driver, whose name was not released, was booked into the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin on suspicion of marijuana possession for sale and traffic violations.

"Considering all the harmful activities often associated with illegal marijuana, I am incredibly proud of the work done by the Dublin Area



COURTESY CHP-DUBLIN

CHP-Dublin reported finding this stash of 270 pounds worth of marijuana (plus over \$36,000 in cash) after stopping a vehicle clocked at over 100 mph on Feb. 19.

officers who proudly patrol our roadways to enhance public safety," said Capt. Gerardo Serrato, commander of the CHP-Dublin office.

—Jeremy Walsh

- The felony trial for alleged sex crimes involving minors by a former San Ramon Valley Unified School District teacher and cheer coach that had been set to kick off this week has been postponed yet again, with the new trial date set for

one month following the previously scheduled date.

It's the seventh time the trial date has been delayed in the case against Nicholas Moseby that was brought forth by the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office in 2022. The trial had most recently been scheduled to start Monday. The new trial date is set for exactly one month later on March 24.

Moseby, who has pleaded not guilty, was first taken into custody on criminal sex abuse charges in September 2022. He has been out on bail since December 2022.

Reasons for the previous delays have included requests for more time for preparation by both sides and scheduling conflicts with attorneys and the judge assigned to the case. A spokesperson for the DA's office said Monday that it's unclear what the reason for the latest delay was.

The trial had been set to proceed following a Feb. 10 case management conference. However, a motion to continue was filed on Feb. 21 and granted as of Monday.

The next hearing in the case is a readiness conference scheduled for March 13 ahead of the new trial date.

—Jeanita Lyman

- Livermore police on Sunday arrested a man they say was pointing a bow and arrow at passing traffic.

Police responded at 11:30 a.m. to a call near North Canyons Parkway and Comcast Place regarding a man with a bow and arrow.

Officers identified the suspect as a 59-year-old Vallejo man who had an active arrest warrant. They allegedly discovered he possessed nearly 11 ounces of methamphetamine, four ounces of psilocybin, drug paraphernalia, a significant amount of cash, and additional evidence of drug sales.

The suspect was arrested on suspicion of multiple drug-related charges and transported to Santa Rita Jail. ■

—Bay City News Service

Grace Tuttle

July 18, 2002 – January 17, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of our beautiful daughter, Grace Cecilia Tuttle, on January 17, 2025 after a courageous battle with brain cancer for the past four years. She was just 22 years old. Grace was born July 18, 2002, in Pleasanton, CA and graduated from Foothill High School in 2020. She was an avid swimmer all her life. She swam for the Fast Dolphins where she eventually joined the staff as a junior coach. Grace also swam for the Foothill High School swim team, backstroke becoming her favorite stroke. She went on to college at Cal State San Marcos where she studied Sociology and proudly received her BA degree this past June. Grace had the ambition of one day becoming a social worker, specifically working with children in hospitals. This was largely due to the amazing staff at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford, where she had received treatment for the duration of her illness. She loved all dogs, especially her beloved Bear, her puppy for over 14 years. She loved spending time over at Seabright Beach, Santa Cruz, soaking in the sun with family and friends and visiting all her favorite spots, Gayle's Bakery, Pizza My Heart, and most recently, the local revolving Tiki Bar. She had participated in the Wharf 2 Wharf run from Santa Cruz to Capitola for the past five years.



Grace will be dearly missed and forever loved by all who knew her. She is survived by her loving boyfriend Aaron Miller, her parents Tim and Cindy Tuttle, grandmother Corrine Lauren, grandfather Clifford Lauren, her cherished siblings Brienne (Andy) Just, Christopher (Jen) Tuttle, Allison (Kyle) Marcus, and Mason Tuttle, and her five nieces, Hannah, Remy, Shay, Hallie and Athena.

We love you Grace, you'll be forever in our hearts.

Rosary Vigil on Friday, Feb. 28, 7:00 PM

St Augustine Catholic Church: 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton
Funeral Mass on Saturday, March 1, 10:30 AM

St Augustine Catholic Church: 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

In lieu of flowers, we graciously ask you to donate to one of the following organizations:

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

<https://my.supportlpch.org/gracetuttle>

Cancer CAREpoint in memory of Grace Tuttle

<https://www.cancercarepoint.org/donate/>

PAID OBITUARY

Lucie Van Breen Brantenaar

March 10, 1930 – October 2, 2024

Lucie (van den Bos; Van Breen) Brantenaar passed on October 2, 2024 in Pleasanton, CA. Born on March 10, 1930 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, she moved to California with her family in 1939. She lived in Palo Alto, Milpitas and San Jose, where she graduated High School in 1948. She raised her family with husband AJ (Bob) Van Breen and worked as a school secretary in the Berryessa area of San Jose. She later married ADJ (Tonny) Brantenaar, and after living for 7 years in the Netherlands, they moved to The Villages in Evergreen (San Jose). Years after Tonny's passing, Lucie moved to Stoneridge Creek/Creekview in Pleasanton.



Lucie is survived by her children Lucie Mewes (Port Orchard, WA), Melissa Kiland (Jon, Castro Valley) and Jack (Dee, Santa Cruz) and step children Jeske, Tom, Jaap and Ralph Brantenaar in the Netherlands. She is also survived by her 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren who fondly called her Gigi.

A Celebration of Life will be held on March 8, 2025 at the Palomares Hills Clubhouse at 6811 Villareal Dr., Castro Valley, CA at 10:30. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to PEO International or KQED television.

PAID OBITUARY

'Don Giovanni' faces the fire at the Bankhead



Livermore Valley Opera production of Mozart classic runs next two weekends

By JUDE STRZEMP

Anti-hero Don Giovanni springs into mischief and a heap of trouble in Livermore Valley Opera's upcoming production of his namesake opera.

Set to run during the next two weekends, audiences can tag along for a mix of tragedy and comedy during four performances of "Don Giovanni" at the Bankhead Theater.

Featuring music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the opera is considered among the greatest of all time, LVOpera's artistic director Erie Mills said in a statement.

All shows will be sung in Italian with English supertitles and accompanied by the LVOpera Orchestra, conducted by music director Alexander Katsman.

"The music is sublime and the characters are complex and intriguing," Mills said. "There is never a dull moment musically or dramatically."

During the opera, Don Giovanni aims to seduce Donna Anna, but kills her dad during a duel instead. Over the next 24 hours he attempts to evade all responsibility for the murder and his persistent womanizing. Eventually Don Giovanni faces punishment for his pursuit of power, relations with women and disrespect for all those around him.



COURTESY LVOPERA

Livermore Valley Opera is set to present Mozart's "Don Giovanni" during the first two Saturdays and Sundays of March. Titus Muzi III (top of page, left) will perform as the story's title character and Meryl Dominguez (top right) will portray Donna Anna, who seeks revenge for her father's death.

"You can't get by in life being a bully, being a misogynist," LVOpera stage director Robert Herriot said of the moral of the opera. "It's an interesting story for the time because it shows us that you can't act like a monster and get away with it."

Behind the characters are a stellar cast of singing actors, Mills said.

The performers include baritone Titus Muzi III as Don Giovanni, bass-baritone Samuel Weiser as Don Giovanni's servant Leporello,

soprano Meryl Dominguez as Donna Anna, soprano Cara Gabrielson as Donna Elvira, tenor David Walton as Don Ottavio, soprano Phoebe Chee as Zerlina, bass-baritone Joseph Calzada as Masetto and bass Kirk Eichelberger II as Commendatore.

Taking a closer look at the characters, Don Giovanni is akin to the center of a wagon wheel given his lack of personal development, Muzi explained. Meanwhile, the characters

around him grow through their own heroes' journey.

One of those who withstands tragedy and evolves throughout the story is Donna Anna.

"How do people deal with trauma and how do people deal with continuing their life after trauma?" Dominguez said. "(That) is the story of Donna Anna."

"These characters are extremely complex and have their own interesting psychologies," Herriot added.

"How they interact with one another and what the result is is an amazing journey — sometimes you don't get that in opera."

As part of LVOpera's 33rd season, performances of "Don Giovanni" are scheduled for the next two Saturdays and Sundays (March 1-2, 8-9), each followed by a customary artist reception in the Bankhead lobby.

Tickets are available at LVOpera.com. Included with purchase is a pre-performance talk held one hour prior to curtain-time.

LVOpera is also celebrating the opening night with a four-course meal at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard in downtown Livermore. The welcome reception is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. Saturday (March 1), followed by dinner seating at 4:30 p.m. All dishes will be paired with award-winning wines from sponsor Cuda Ridge Wines. Tickets for the dinner are sold separately from the performance and available at livermorearts.org.

Also scheduled for opening night is a performance of musical numbers by students from the Young Musicians Choral Orchestra, including some tunes from "Guys and Dolls". The pre-opera performance is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the Bankhead lobby. ■

TV legend Vicki Lawrence back in Livermore this summer

Taylor Swift tribute show, Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, comedian Maria Bamford also on bill

By JEREMY WALSH

The Bankhead Theater's summer season is shaping up to be a mix of local debuts and returning favorites, headlined by another Livermore appearance by legendary television comedian Vicki Lawrence.

Also back in the Tri-Valley will be the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and standup comedian Maria Bamford in June, along with first-time local performances of The Great DuBois: Masters of Variety two-person circus show and a tribute to Taylor Swift's famous Eras Tour, "Are You Ready For It? A Taylor Experience" in August.

Jumping out on the bill that Livermore Valley Arts announced last week is the final performer, Lawrence, known for her long career on television that started on "The Carol Burnett Show" and the spinoff show centered on her character Thelma Harper, "Mama's Family". She previously graced the Bankhead stage in 2018.

"Vicki Lawrence and Mama: A



COURTESY LVA

Vicki Lawrence has two shows at the Bankhead Theater on Aug. 16.

Two-Woman Show" is being presented twice on Aug. 16, with a 3 p.m. matinee and 8 p.m. evening show.

"I think people will get a kick out of the things Mama has an opinion about. We're creating new material with a more modern and cutting edge. Where Mama is concerned, expect the unexpected. There's really nothing she can't do," Lawrence said

of the production in an LVA press release.

"I hope people will be pleasantly surprised by a side of Vicki they may never have seen ... I know they will be looking forward to Mama, and for her part, that crazy old gal will be up to the challenge," she added.

Laughs will be in the air on June 27 as well, with Bamford returning to the Bankhead. The standup comedian, also known for her voiceover acting work and mental health advocacy, appeared at the downtown theater two years ago.

The summer series will start six days earlier with a familiar group, the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir.

"Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir will celebrate Juneteenth with experience and music that brings and shares the African-American community's resiliency, joy and strength," LVA reps said of the June 21 concert. "Under the direction of Terrance Kelly, this diverse, inclusive group takes us through a gospel music journey — introducing different styles of Black gospel music and



COURTESY LVA

Traci Marie will lead the "Are You Ready For It? A Taylor Experience" tribute concert on Aug. 2.

connecting it to the Freedom Songs of the Civil Rights movement and music today."

The other concert on the schedule is inspired by, well, another concert.

"Are You Ready For It? A Taylor Experience" starring Traci Marie as Taylor Swift pays tribute to the singer-songwriter's billion-dollar worldwide Eras Tour (2023 to 2024) at the Bankhead on Aug. 2.

High-energy will also be the theme in the theater one week later as the two-person The Great DuBois: Masters of Variety circus show arrives on Aug. 9, "showcasing incredible feats of juggling, hula hoops, unicycle, aerial, circus stunts, contortion, magic and audience interaction all wrapped up in a blanket of comedy," LVA reps said. ■

Livermore reading 'The Wild Robot' together

Hands-on tech for kids, art exhibit, trivia game among activities hosted by city library

By JEREMY WALSH

Your relationship with those around you is aptly a central theme to the selected work for the 2025 Livermore Reads Together program, "The Wild Robot" by Peter Brown.

The first book in author Peter Brown's trilogy of the same name — which was also adapted into an animated feature film last year — follows the adventures and evolution of a robot that crash-lands in wilderness and learns to live among nature. The Livermore Public Library is ready to celebrate the book and the 19th annual community program with a kickoff event this weekend among a series of activities all month long.

"We're really glad it was selected for this year's citywide reading experience because it's an engaging, heartfelt story that explores big ideas like technology, nature and what it means to connect with others," adult services librarian Paul Sevilla told Livermore Vine. "It ties perfectly into this year's 'Artificial Intelligence and Technology' theme, and we hope it inspires readers of all ages to reflect, get creative, and learn together through fun events and meaningful conversations."

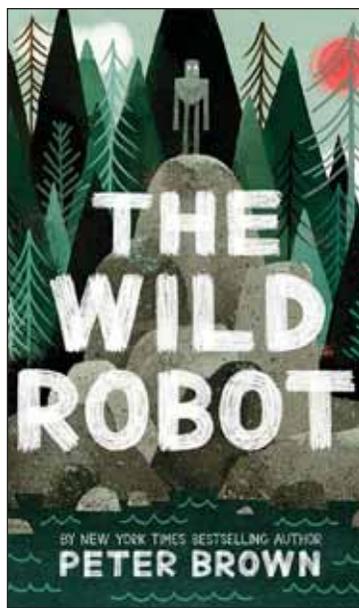
It was the Livermore community itself that chose "The Wild Robot"

from six options during online and in-person voting, Sevilla noted. The literacy program encourages residents to read the book — even checking it out from their local library branch — and engage with fellow readers about its story and themes.

The kickoff event is set to feature "an afternoon of AI, robotics and engineering activities for all ages" this Saturday (March 1) from 1-3 p.m. in the Civic Center Library's Storytime Room — in partnership with Quest Science Center, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore Flying Electrons and System Overload Robotics.

This weekend will also mark the debut at the library of the Livermore Art Association's "The Future is Now" exhibit, with a public reception for the month-long art show set for next Saturday afternoon (March 8).

Other Livermore Reads Together events on the calendar include experiential sessions for youth on solar-powered rovers, a trivia game on March 14, making robots from recycled materials for elementary school students (March 18 at the Springtown Branch Library and March 21 at the Rincon Branch Library) and "Under the Lens" robotic hand building for third through fifth graders on March 21.



LIVERMORE LIBRARY

"The Wild Robot" by Peter Brown is the selection for 2025 Livermore Reads Together.

There will also be a webinar for teens and adults on March 25, "ChatGPT Unveiled: Understanding the Power, Risks and Ethics of AI Language Models" with A.P. Anderson and a talk for all ages at the main library on March 29, "Emergent Tech Demos" with San Jose State University iSchool.

Learn more by visiting library livermoreca.gov. ■

Dublin High students win Congressional App Challenge

Neurochess intended to help develop focus, strategic thinking, problem-solving

By JUDE STRZEMP

A team of Dublin High School seniors received statewide recognition late last month for creating Neurochess, an app intended for neurodiverse learners to improve focus and cognitive skills through chess.

In addition to skill-building, the app also provides chess lessons and seeks to build a community of players through collaborative learning.

For creating the app, Anish Ummadi, Josh Zeng, Vikrant Ganesan and Sudith Thota won the 2024 Congressional App Challenge in California's 10th Congressional District, a competition meant to encourage youth to learn coding as well as inspire creativity and an interest in STEM education.

"Each year, the Congressional App Challenge allows students in our community to hone their coding skills and showcase their creativity," Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) said in a statement. "As always, I'm very impressed by the talent and ingenuity demonstrated by these students."

The creators of Neurochess began building the app late last year after discovering that playing chess helped them develop focus, strategic thinking and problem-solving skills, Ummadi said.

"We wanted to create a platform that could make these benefits more accessible in a structured way, especially for people close to us with ADHD and other neurodivergent conditions," Ummadi added.

The teens designed an AI feature that gives personalized predictions and insights to help users understand gameplay and improve their focus and decision-making abilities, according to a statement from the office of DeSaulnier. They also created instructional videos to reinforce patience and strategic thinking for the benefit of individuals with ADHD.

For Sati Hillyer, who sat on the judges' panel, Neurochess stood out from other applicants.

"I received a lot of great submissions, but Neurochess was my top pick," Hillyer said. "The impact their app could have on individuals with ADHD is both timely and much needed. On top of that, the technology behind it is impressive."

As the Neurochess team looks to the future, they continuously refine the app based on user feedback to make it as effective and engaging as possible.

"The power of chess and technology is what brought us together to build this app, and we hope to continue building on it with more advanced features to make a lasting impact," Ummadi said. ■

Opinion

LETTERS

'Finest Falcons' column

My wife Cindy and I are parents to Grace Tuttle, one of the "Finest Falcons" Jeremy Walsh wrote about this past week when publishing her obituary.

We were so moved when reading your column we wanted to write and thank you for taking the time to specifically acknowledge Grace. Your personal pause relating to your brother was especially meaningful, it is heartwarming to know that Grace's story touched your life as she did so many others.

We continue to be amazed and so very grateful each day as we receive cards, emails and kind messages letting us know how much people loved Grace, how she inspired or touched them and how much she is missed.

Thanks for being yet another light in our lives.

—Tim and Cindy Tuttle

Pleasanton Weekly

PUBLISHER

Gina Channell Wilcox, Ext. 1171

EDITORIAL

Editorial Director

Jeremy Walsh, Ext. 1172

Editor

Cierra Bailey, (650) 223-6528

Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

Staff Reporters

Jeanita Lyman, Ext. 1179

Jude Strzemp, Ext. 1175

Christian Trujano, Ext. 1176

Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Tim Hunt,

Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

Designers

Linda Atilano, Paul Llewellyn,

Mary Watanabe, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Account Executive

Karen Klein, Ext. 1177

Real Estate Sales

Carol Cano, Ext. 1173

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate

Carolyn Chan, Ext. 1174

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

Girls' high school wrestling

I hope this message finds you well. As a devoted reader, I'd like to offer a suggestion that could further enhance your already fantastic coverage.

The local high school girls wrestling scene in our area truly deserves more attention. We are home to some of the most talented young wrestlers in Northern California, possibly even the state, and yet they often remain under-recognized. These athletes are not only excelling in their sport but also displaying remarkable resilience, determination, and skill.

It would be fantastic to see greater coverage showcasing these outstanding young women — through feature stories, event highlights or spotlights on individual achievements. There are countless inspiring stories within the wrestling community that deserve to be told. For instance, the lack of mention of the girls' performances in the recent East Bay Athletic League results over the weekend is an example of the missed opportunities to recognize their hard work.

Thank you for considering this, and for your continued dedication to bringing us the best local news. I look forward to seeing more coverage of our area's rising high school girls wrestling stars!

—Kevin Monaghan

Athletic fields fees

The plan to introduce fees for use of athletic fields is ill advised. Older established persons in the community can often afford fees such as these. This burden is on young families whose economics are developing.

The amenities are of benefit to the entire community. Those like me, a 40-year resident, who reared our family using these types of facilities, I would gladly pay to maintain the parks and sports fields throughout the city.

Or think out of the box! How about solar panels over parking lots? Would easily generate more money than fees.

—Bob Sanchez

President Trump's first five weeks

During President Trump's first five weeks in office he has secured the border, deported thousands of the worst illegal alien criminals, stopped the wasteful USAID spending, and reduced the federal wasteful spending in other departments putting an end to the fraud, waste and abuse and saving the American taxpayers billions of dollars.

He has created the most qualified cabinet in history. He has started the negotiations to stop the Russia-Ukraine war and to bring peace to Europe, something Biden and the Europe nations were incapable of doing.

He is renegotiating new trade deals with countries that have been taking

advantage of the U.S. for years. A very busy first five weeks. And once his policies take effect, America will be rid of the Biden inflation that is still impacting us all.

I can't wait to see what his administration accomplishes next.

—David Ott

It's the economy, stupid

It's the economy, stupid, and it's not even on his radar or part of the broader MAGA conversation. Inflation is increasing, and Trump's response? Let's take over and own Gaza and tell 2 million people to find a new home.

The price at the pump is up, and a MAGA, Trump sycophant member of Congress out of Georgia introduces a bill to rename Greenland as "Red, White, and Blueland". I'm not kidding!

The cost of eggs has ballooned 15%. Sure, it can be blamed on bird flu, but has anyone in this administration mentioned bird flu? Nope. Instead, we get Elon Musk with a MAGA hat throwing darts at the next federal agency he wants to eliminate so he can get more government contracts for his own companies.

A recent poll showed that almost two-thirds of respondents say Trump isn't focused enough on lowering costs, as he said he would do on the campaign trail, and that includes 48% of Republicans. And what does Trump do? Something called "reciprocal tariffs". Out of one side of his mouth, he said he wants to implement these for, "purposes of fairness..." and out of the other side of his mouth, he said, "It will inevitably mean higher tariffs and thus higher taxes for American consumers and manufacturers."

Maybe I misspoke. The economy is on his radar. Only he's not lowering costs. He's raising them. He's just using other words like "tariffs" and "taxes".

So it turns out that Project 2025, which Trump claims he never heard of during his campaign, really is his game plan. Helping working-class Americans to get by? Not so much.

Wanna fight back and use your constituent power? Join us at Indivisible Tri-Valley.

—Ward Kanowsky

United States Postal (Abysmal) Service

The USPS mail system is an absolute failure. Mail carriers cannot read and understand numbered addresses on envelopes and are incapable of delivering those envelopes to residential homes with the same address numbers. Third graders and postal carriers have different areas of expertise regarding numbers.

Residents in this neighborhood are registered with "Informed Delivery", in that they receive an email from the postal service with a photo of the

PET OF THE WEEK



EAST BAY SPCA

Peppy Piglet

Piglet is a gorgeous young pup who is eager to meet her new best friend forever. She is smart, short and spunky! Her playful nature will keep you amazed for hours. Whether she's playing with a new friend or by herself, this young lady loves to keep herself amused. Piglet is very food- and toy-motivated, young and eager to learn. Her youthful spirit shines bright beyond her stunning white coat and merle tail. Come meet this gorgeous girl at East Bay SPCA in Dublin today. Or check out her profile online at eastbayspca.org.

first-class mail that will be delivered to their mailboxes that day.

So, when we did not receive the 1099s as the "Informed Delivery" indicated, I went around the neighborhood asking if they were misdelivered to their mailboxes. They were not. Those 1099s were misdelivered somewhere, lost, destroyed or maybe stolen. The carrier had them under his control when he drove away from the post office to deliver them.

I receive mail in my mailbox addressed to my neighbors, or addressed to residents in nearby neighborhoods up to one mile away. I hand-delivered that misdelivered mail to the correct residential address. Years earlier I wrote two \$300 checks to two different charity organizations. Those checks were never presented for payment, apparently lost or destroyed.

The problem behind this is that many government employees are chronic political party hangers-on, incapable of holding down a job in private industry. They are given responsibility for delivering confidential mail and fail to follow through in fulfilling that responsibility. The U.S. postal system is a bloated, expensive, inefficient government bureaucracy that fails to deliver.

—Michael Austin

Never seen an attack on our democracy like this

I am 65 years old and I've lived through many political crises in this country — but I have never seen an attack on our democracy like this. In the past, there was bipartisan opposition to lawlessness. United, we stood for our greatest ideals. Today, the guardrails are being dismantled before our eyes. It's time to sound the alarm.

Today, our Social Security and Medicare information is compromised, our tax returns in the hands of young, inexperienced "tech bros" and Musk, there's an attempt to make COVID vaccines illegal, federal workers have been fired, and funding to critical agencies like the USAID have been frozen or eliminated altogether. In short, our neighbors and allies are not just in harm's way, they will suffer. We all will.

It's time to take a stand. Please call

Congress and demand that they protect the American people and safeguard the separation of powers. It really is up to us.

—Barbara Comstock

Releasing city's general ledger is step too far

Intimidation and bullying is rearing its ugly head in Pleasanton again. This time the focus is on city staff and the best accounting practices maintained by our financial department. I have seen talk on social media about a need for the city manager to make Pleasanton's general ledger publicly available.

Make no mistake, this would only open a political issue out of every single line item of the city's spending. Pleasanton does not need this. This would be a step taken too far in the name of transparency.

And should the general ledger be made publicly available it would be an act akin to handing the arsonists in the community gasoline and matches. To my knowledge the city is not under a legal obligation to make its confidential ledger available to the public. In no way would the community be served by this.

The battles surrounding the budget are ripping our city apart. Rather than doing the hard work of building a smarter budget that works for all of Pleasanton, certain elected officials are choosing to spend their valuable time looking backwards at previous spending items in an effort to pin blame on dedicated city employees.

They seek to distract the community from the budget catastrophe they put us in. They tantalize the public with promises of a better future for our city while simultaneously whipping up a malevolent few in our community who truly wish to break the city organization starting from the top down. Self-interested, scheming leadership is holding Pleasanton back while residents are forced to suffer the consequences.

Division, along with discord, do not align with the virtues that make Pleasanton a great community. As friends and neighbors let us hold our elected leaders accountable by expecting service to the community before anything else.

—Matthew Gray



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

A last-gasp push I can get behind: 'Fair racing 2026'

Perhaps a pipe dream, but let's get the right people to look at the practicality and probability

To say when the news broke about there being no horse racing this year at the Alameda County Fair in June and July was a shot to solar plexus is a vast understatement.

I have not written much because I don't know what to say. I am having a hard time accepting the reality of having the Alameda County Fair take place with no racing.

And I am sure when the fair rolls around in June, it will be surrealistic for me to have no handicapping seminars, no interviews with the winning stakes connections in the winner's circle — nothing.

It's been over 40 years for me covering the races initially, then moving on to host all the seminars, putting contests, paddock tours ... you name it. If it involved horse racing during the fair, there's a good chance I was involved.

You can imagine the number of times people have reached out, asking what the heck is going on.

The person I have spoken the most with about racing over the last few months is another longtime Pleasanton resident, horse racing



CHUCK DECKERT

Horse racing action at the 2024 Alameda County Fair.

fan and friend: Allen Aldrich.

Aldrich is on the Fair Board of Directors and the Racing Committee. He has always been honest with me over the years when we talked about horse racing in Pleasanton.

There are times he calls to get my opinion on issues and there are a load of times I call him just to find out what's going on.

After we saw a group of local horse racing fans make an appearance at a

Fair Board meeting to try and save racing for this year, I didn't think the timing was right and trying to rush something together at the last minute would hurt the sport rather than help it.

It was about that time Aldrich said the simple phrase — "Fair racing 2026".

The more I thought about it, the more it made sense. It's going to be an uphill battle to get horse racing at the fair again and if it happens, it will take a well-prepared organization.

If we can work ourselves into getting a chance to run a meet during the fair again, it is going to be the last shot.

Take a year, dot the "i's" and cross the "t's". Make sure all the ducks are in a row and everything that needs to be done is in place.

Can it be done? Realistically it's a pipe dream, but I think it's worthy of a conversation over the course of a year to determine the practicality and probability.

There are people locally I trust and believe have everything it would take to give us a chance. Let's make sure we do it with the right people.



JOCELYN LAI

Foothill Dean Caudill (1) with the kill against Granada.

Amador boys' basketball

The Dons won a pair of games during the first week of the North Coast Section Division I playoffs, advancing to the semifinals.

In the first game the Dons beat Bishop O'Dowd 61-48. Chad Krueger and Jaylen Smith each had 13 points, with Brady McMillin hitting four 3-pointers to finish with 12 points.

That sent the Dons to round two where they got a 66-53 win over Northgate. Smith had 25 points to lead the Dons with Chad Krueger finishing with 18.

Foothill boys' volleyball

The Falcons already opened East Bay Athletic League play, re-scheduling their league game with Granada due to a conflict with the Matadors' spring break schedule.

And the Falcons started right

where they left off, with a 22-25, 25-23, 25-21, 25-21 win.

Highlights came from Josh Salonga (52 assists, 9 digs, 5 kills, 2 blocks), Dean Caudill (19 kills, 14 digs, 13 service points), Jeremy Sun (15 kills, 12 digs), Cameron Hitchan (11 kills, 1 block) and Thomas Paduraru (10 kills, 6 blocks).

Amador girls' soccer

The Dons won two games to advance to the semifinals. They opened the tournament with a 5-0 win over Heritage, then followed with a 3-0 win to advance to the semifinals.

No details on the two wins were submitted to the Weekly. ■

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

Get Involved Make A Difference

Partner with an adult learner. Volunteer as an adult literacy tutor!

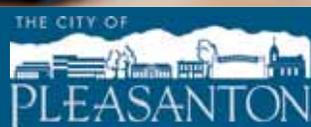


PLEASANTON READS
Pleasanton Library
Adult Literacy and ESL Services

925-931-3405
literacy@cityofpleasantonca.gov



400 Old Bernal Ave, Pleasanton
PleasantonLibrary.org



TAKE US ALONG



Catching a PLU game: Dustin and Robin Boyce traveled every weekend this fall to watch their son Nathan play football for Division III Pacific Lutheran University in Washington. "We catch up with the Pleasanton Weekly during warm ups," Dustin said. "Nathan continues the family tradition at PLU where his great-grandmother Juanita Joy Moe attended."

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.

Public Notices

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
SANJAY DAS, an individual; and DOES 1-50
inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):
ITRIA VENTURES LLC, a Delaware limited
liability company

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may
decide against you without your being heard
unless you respond within 30 days. Read the
information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this
summons and legal papers are served on you
to file a written response at this court and
have a copy served
on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not
protect you. Your written response must be in
proper legal form if you want the court to hear
your case.
There may be a court form that you can use for
your response. You can find these court forms
and more information at the California Courts
Online Self-
Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp),
your county law library, or the courthouse
nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee,
ask the court clerk for
a fee waiver form. If you do not file your
response on time, you may lose the case by
default, and your wages, money, and property
may
be taken without further warning from the
court.

There are other legal requirements. You may
want to call an attorney right away. If you do
not know an attorney, you may want to call
an attorney
referral service. If you cannot afford an
attorney, you may be eligible for free legal
services from a nonprofit legal services
program. You can locate
these nonprofit groups at the California Legal
Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org),
the California Courts Online Self-Help Center
(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by
contacting your local court or county bar
association. NOTE: The court has a statutory
lien for waived fees and
costs on any settlement or arbitration award of
\$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's
lien must be paid before the court will dismiss
the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde
dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir
en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la
información a
continuación.
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de
que le entreguen esta citación y papeles
legales para presentar una respuesta por
escrito
en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una
copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada
telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por
escrito tiene que estar en formato legal
correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la
corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que
usted
pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede
encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más
información en el Centro de Ayuda de las
Cortes de
California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la
biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte
que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar
la cuota
de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte
que le dé un formulario de exención de pago
de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a
tiempo, puede perder el caso por
incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su
sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más
advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales.
Es recomendable que llame a un abogado
inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado,
puede llamar a
un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no
puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que
cumpla con los requisitos para obtener
servicios
legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios
legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar
estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web
de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda
de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o
poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el
colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la
corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los
costos exentos por imponer un gravamen
sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó
más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo
o una
concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho
civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte

antes de que la corte pueda desechar el
caso.
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may
decide against you without your being heard
unless you respond within 30 days. Read the
information

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

(Número del Caso):
24CV078542
CASE NUMBER:

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):
Jason S. Takenouchi, Kasowitz Benson Torres
LLP, 101 California Street, Suite 3950, San
Francisco, CA 94111; Tel (415) 421-6140
DATE: Clerk, by

D. Franklin, Deputy
(Fecha) 06/05/2024 Chad Finke, Executtve
Officer's Clerk of the Court (Secretario)
(Adjunto)
(PLW Feb 14, 21, 28 and Mar 7, 2025)

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:
(AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

**AHMED MOHAMMED ALHARAZI; DOES 1
TO 10;
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:
(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):**
CAPITAL COLLECTIONS, LLC

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may
decide against you without your being heard
unless you respond Within 30 days. Read the
information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this
summons and legal papers are served on you
to file a written response at this court and
have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or
phone call will not protect you. Your written
response must be in proper legal form if you
want the court to hear your case. There may
be a court form that you can use for your
response. You can find these court forms and
more information at the California Courts
Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or
the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot
pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee
waiver form. If you do not file your response
on time, you may lose the case by default,
and your wages, money, and property may
be taken without further warning from the
court. There are other legal requirements. You
may want to call an attorney right away. If you
do not know an attorney, you may want to
call an attorney referral service. If you cannot
afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free
legal services from a nonprofit legal services
program. You can locate these nonprofit
groups at the California Legal Services Web
site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California
Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your
local court or county bar association. NOTE:
The court has a statutory lien for waived fees
and costs on any settlement or arbitration
award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The
court's lien must be paid before the court will
dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado.
Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede
decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea
la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE
CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta
citación y papeles legales para presentar una
respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se
entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta
o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su
respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato
legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso
en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario
que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede
encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas
información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes
de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la
biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte
que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la
cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la
corte que le dé un formulario de exención de
pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a
tiempo, puede perder el caso por
incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su
sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable
que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no
conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un
servicio de remisión

a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado,
es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para
obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un
programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro.
Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro
en el sitio web de California Legal Services,
(www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de
Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o
poniéndose en contacto con la corte
o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley,
la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los
costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre
cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 mas de valor
recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión
de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene
que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que
la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre
y dirección de la corte es):

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 1130 "O"
STREET
FRESNO, CA 93724

The name, address, and telephone number
of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an
attorney, is:
(El nombre, la dirección y el numero de
telefono de/ abogado de/ demandante, o de/
demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
STEVEN R. HRDLICKA #117557 ATTORNEY AT
LAW 545632-5
555 W. SHAW AVE, STE C-1 (559) 485-1453
FRESNO, CA 93704
DATE (Fecha) : **9/20/2024**
Clerk, by T.Espinoza Deputy (Secretario)
(Adjunto)
(PLW Feb 14, 21, 28 and Mar 7, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 609421
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):
BAYVIEW PLACE
1440 40th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 09/20/2024
UNDER FILE NO. 609421
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
EMERYVILLE SENIOR HOUSING LLC
One Town Center Rd STE 300
Boca Raton, FL 33486
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A
Limited Liability Company.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk
Recorder of Alameda County on January 15
2025.
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

File No. 573897
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):
GLOBAL EYECARE OPTOMETRY
4299 Rosewood Dr. Unit 105
Pleasanton, CA 94588
FILED IN ALAMEDA COUNTY ON: 10/19/2020
UNDER FILE NO. 573897
REGISTRANT'S NAME(S):
DR. HELEN CHENG OPTOMETRIST, INC
4299 Rosewood Dr. Unit 105
Pleasanton, CA 94588
THIS BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED BY A
Corporation.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk
Recorder of Alameda County on January 10
2025.
(PLW Feb 21, 28, Mar 7 and 14, 2025)

ZAIB
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612454

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) Zaib, located at 39315 Del Oro Terraza,
Fremont, CA 94538, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
SANA KHAN
39315 Del Oro Terraza
Fremont, CA 94538
Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 13
2025.
(PLW Feb 21, 28, Mar 7 and 14, 2025)

WESTERN SERVICES AND WESTERN COOLING
WESTERN SERVICES
WESTERN COOLING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612497
The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:

1.) Western Services And Western Cooling, 2.)
Western Services, 3.) Western Cooling, located
at 4900 Hopyard Rd, Suite 100 Pleasanton, CA
94588, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
AE3V LLC
4900 Hopyard Road, Suite 100
Pleasanton, CA 94588
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 14
2025.
(PLW Feb 21, 28, Mar 7 and 14, 2025)

ORGANATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 611883

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) ORGANATION, located at 6330 Stoneridge
Mall Rd E 202, Pleasanton CA, 94588, Alameda
County.
This business is conducted by: a Married
Couple.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
BARBARA FITZPATRICK
6330 Stoneridge Mall Rd Apt.E202
Pleasanton, CA 94588
AARON FITZPATRICK
6330 Stoneridge Mall Rd. Apt.E202
Pleasanton, CA 94588
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
01-21-2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 21
2025.
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

1440 BY THE BAY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 611795

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) 1440 By The Bay, located at 1440 40th
Street Emeryville, CA 94608, Alameda County.
Mailing Address: 3461 Bonita Bay Blvd Bonita
Springs, FL 34134.
This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
EMERYVILLE SENIOR HOUSING LLC
One Town Center Rd STE 300
Boca Raton, FL 33486
State of Incorporation/Organization: DE
Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious business name(s)
listed above.
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 15
2025.
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

LIFE'N LEMONS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 611451

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) Life'N Lemons, located at 3225 Internet
Common Unit 1000, Fremont, CA, 94538,
Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
ANKITA ARUN PISE
3225 Internet Common Unit 1000
Fremont, CA, 94538
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
10/10/2024
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on December 26
2024.
(PLW Feb 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

ASSISTANCE REALTY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612525

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) Assistance Realty, located at 2512 Tapestry
Dr Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
PAUL MARUSKIN
2512 Tapestry Dr
Livermore, CA 94550
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 6/1/2024
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 18
2025.
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

CENTURY MEDALLION REALTY GROUP
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612522

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) CENTURY MEDALLION REALTY GROUP,
located at 350 Main Street Suite J4 Pleasanton,
CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
GODINEZ
15814 Winchester Blvd
Los Gatos, CA 95030
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 02/10/25
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 18
2025.
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

HOPEWELL EDUCATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612255

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) HOPEWELL EDUCATION, located at 46132
Warm Springs Blvd., Ste 101, Fremont, CA
94539, Alameda County. Mailing Address:
5260 Montiano Court, Dublin, CA 94568.
This business is conducted by: a Limited
Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
HOPEWELL ACADEMY, LLC
5260 Montiano Court
Dublin, CA 94568
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 02/10/25
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 04
2025.
(PLW Feb 14, 21, 28 and Mar 7, 2025)

NAKED BEAU-TY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612416

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) NAKED BEAU-TY, located at 22505 Center
Street Hayward, CA 94541, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
JANEEN BULLARD
22505 Center Street
Hayward, CA 94541
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above on
01/01/2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 10
2025.
(PLW Feb 21, 28, Mar 7 and 14, 2025)

FIVE STAR FLOORS AND LEVELING SERVICES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612069

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) Five Star Floors And Leveling Services,
located at 6398 Dougherty Rd Unit 20 Dublin,
CA 94546, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
ERIC ROSS
6398 Dougherty Rd. Unit 20
Dublin, 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 28
2025.
(PLW Feb 14, 21, 28 and Mar 7, 2025)

BLUE SKY PSYCHIATRY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 611835

The following person (persons) is (are) doing
business as:
1.) Blue Sky Psychiatry, located at 2199
Manzanita Dr Oakland, CA 94611, Alameda
County. Mailing Address: 2930 Domingo Ave.,
#218 Berkeley, CA 94705.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the
registrant(s) is(are):
MINDY WERNER-CROHN MD INC
2930 Domingo Ave., #218
Berkeley, CA 94705
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under
the fictitious business name(s) listed above
on 1/1/2025
This statement was filed with the County
Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 16
2025.
(PLW Feb 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

Continued on next page

Public Notices

Continued from previous page

PRIMATE DEPOT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612415
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) PRIMATE DEPOT, located at 6256 Escallonia Ct. Newark, CA, 94560, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JUSTIN KWON
6256 Escallonia Ct
Newark, CA, 94560
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/10/2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 10 2025.
(PLW Feb 21, 28, Mar 7 and 14, 2025)

SIRENE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612065
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Sirene, located at 3308 Grand Ave Oakland, CA 94610, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
MAMA BIRD LLC
3308 Grand Ave
Oakland, CA 94610
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 28 2025.
(PLW Feb 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

REMOTE STAFFING NETWORK
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612028
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Remote Staffing Network, located at 36163 Ruschin Drive, Newark, CA 94560, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
VIRTUAL ASSISTANT TALENT LLC
36163 Ruschin Drive
Newark, CA 94560
State of Incorporation/Organization: CA
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 27 2025.
(PLW Feb 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

P-TOWN PROPERTIES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 611832
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) P-TOWN PROPERTIES, located at 3072 Alumni Court Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County. Mailing Address: 101 E Vineyard Ave, Ste 119-129, Livermore, CA 94550.
This business is conducted by: a Married Couple.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ERIKA TORQUEMADA
101 E Vineyard Ave, Ste 119-129
Livermore, CA 94550
H.BRUCE TORQUEMADA
101 E Vineyard Ave, Ste 119-129
Livermore, CA 94550
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on January 16 2025.
(PLW Feb 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 24CV099745
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Alexander Keyoung-Min Jung filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
ALEXANDER KEYOUNG-MIN JUNG to ALEX

KEYOUNG-MIN JUNG
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING: 4/4/2025, 9:30am, Wiley W Manuel Courthouse of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 661 Washington St., Oakland, CA 94607.

A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: 11/15/2024
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV111035
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Nicholas Edward Joebgen filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
NICHOLAS EDWARD JOEBGEN to NICHOLAS EDWARD BERMES
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: June 6th, 2025, 9:30am, Hayward Hall Of Justice 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: February 21st, 2025
Thomas J. Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Feb 28, Mar 7, 14 and 21, 2025)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
Case No.: 25CV109604
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Yekaterina Korolyova filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
YEKATERINA KOROLYOVA to KATERINA ZAKI
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: 05/30/2025, 9:30am, 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: 02/06/2025
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Feb 14, 21, 28 and Mar 7, 2025)

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/
For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Calendar

POST CALENDAR ITEMS AT PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Entertainment

JAZZ AT INKLINGS Chris Bradley on cornet, Karen Marguth singing and the Matt Finders Trio. 6 p.m., Feb. 28. Reservations at [meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society](https://www.meetup.com/pleasanton-jazz-society). 530 Main St., Pleasanton.

RITA RUDNER AT THE BANKHEAD This seasoned comedian knows how to find the humor in the everyday and then turn it all on its head in her show. 8 p.m., Feb. 28. Tickets \$65-\$95. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://www.livermorearts.org).

CARLOS REYES AT THE FIREHOUSE Carlos Reyes is known for breaking musical barriers blending classical, jazz, rock and Latin styles into a unique and enthralling sound. 7:30 p.m., March 1. Tickets \$31-\$41. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://www.firehousearts.org).

DAN NICHOLS AT CONGREGATION BETH EMEK Join for the biggest musical event of the year with Dan Nichols, one of the foremost composers of new Jewish music. His beautiful melodies and lyrics are matched by his powerhouse performance style and superb musicianship. 7:30 p.m., March 1. Nevada Court, Pleasanton. \$20 general, \$10 youth 5-17, free for youth 4 and under. 3400 Nevada Ct, Pleasanton.

DON GIOVANNI Livermore Valley Opera Presents Mozart's masterful tragicomedy which revolves around Giovanni's amorous escapades as he strives to feed his wanton desires while avoiding those who seek to expose him and bring him to justice. March 1-2 and 8-9. Tickets \$25-\$110. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://www.livermorearts.org).

RONNIE BAKER BROOKS Award-winning blues rock guitarist, songwriter and vocalist Ronnie Baker Brooks celebrates the release of his album, Blues In My DNA, with a live performance at the Almost Famous Wine Company. 7:30 p.m., March 1. Tickets \$33.85-\$59.47. 2271 S. Vasco Road, Livermore.

LAUGHTER KE RANG Standup comedy performed by the acclaimed Desi Comedy Live team. 5 and 7 p.m., March 2. Tickets \$28-\$38. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://www.firehousearts.org).

STEWART COPELAND Bankhead presents the Rae Dorough Speaker

Series with Stewart Copeland, the dynamic drummer of The Police. Stewart will share stories from his extraordinary life, offering insights into his journey as a performer, musician, entertainer and writer. 7:30 p.m., March 5. Tickets \$25-\$80. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://www.livermorearts.org).

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN TRIBUTE TO TONY BENNETT Join Michael Feinstein and the Carnegie Hall Ensemble pay tribute to the Tony Bennett legacy. 8 p.m., March 7. Tickets \$95-\$130. Visit [livermorearts.org](https://www.livermorearts.org).

THE MODERN GENTLEMEN Their electrifying performances feature an eclectic array of reimagined chart-topping hits from Motown, The Beach Boys, The Beatles, Eagles, Queen, The Bee Gees and more with a seamless blend of throwback nostalgia and contemporary flair. 7:30 p.m., March 7. Tickets \$43-\$48. Visit [firehousearts.org](https://www.firehousearts.org).

ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN Join the Sunol Repertory Theatre in this comic retelling of the story of Robin Hood which includes thumb wars, missed cues and a slow motion fight scene. March 8, 14-15, 22, 28-29. Tickets \$20. Visit [sunol.net/srt/](https://www.sunol.net/srt/).

Outdoor Rec

LIVERMORE VALLEY HALF MARATHON Join in celebrating the 11th anniversary of the Livermore Valley Half Marathon, 7:30-11 a.m., March 2. Visit [livermoreca.gov](https://www.livermoreca.gov).

SPRING BIRD WALK Join LARPD for a leisurely walk to look and listen for birds on this 1-1.5 miles slow pace walk with some unstable terrain. 7:30-8:30 a.m., March 9. Sycamore Grove Entrance, 1051 Wetmore Road. Visit [larpd.org](https://www.larpd.org).

Scholarships

PEDROZZI SCHOLARSHIPS The 2025 Pedrozzi Scholarship applications are open with eligibility to students of all ages who are either graduating or have graduated from the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Scholarship awards will be a minimum of \$1,000 per year, renewable for up to four years. Deadline Feb. 28. Visit [pedrozzifoundation.org](https://www.pedrozzifoundation.org).

ALAN HU FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP 2025 Alan Hu Foundation Scholarships for up to \$1,000 will be awarded to high school seniors from Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton school districts whose college majors and career aspirations support mental health. Deadline March 9. Visit [alanhufoundation.org/scholarship](https://www.alanhufoundation.org/scholarship).

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF AMADOR VALLEY SCHOLARSHIP The Assistance League of Amador Valley is providing 4 scholarships to help cover the cost of tuition, books and supplies for current residents of Pleasanton, Livermore or Dublin. Deadline March 17. Visit [assistanceleague.org/amador-valley/](https://www.assistanceleague.org/amador-valley/).

AVSI SCHOLARSHIPS Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc. (AVSI) awards scholarships to graduating seniors from Amador, Foothill and Village High Schools who will be continuing their education at a vocational/technical school, community college or four-year college or university. Deadline March 21. Visit [amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org](https://www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org).

ROTARY CLUB HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS The Rotary Club of Pleasanton invites High School Seniors who are graduating from any Pleasanton High School or are home schooled to apply for its more than \$50,000 of scholarships to be awarded in 2025. Deadline March 31. Apply through a school counselor or visit [pleasantonrotary.org](https://www.pleasantonrotary.org).

THREE VALLEYS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP The David Yandell Living Legacy Service Scholarship of \$10,000 honors an Amador Valley High School senior each year who demonstrates exceptional leadership, service and commitment to their school and the larger community. Deadline March 31. Visit [3vcf.org](https://www.3vcf.org).

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM The President's Scholars Program provides selected students with benefits including full tuition for up to two years, a \$1,000 annual textbook stipend, parking permits each term and use of a new laptop computer. Deadline March 31. Visit [laspositascollege.edu](https://www.laspositascollege.edu).

AAUW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS The American Association of University Women invites women entering their junior or senior year of college to apply for a scholarship of up to \$3,500. The scholarships are open to women of all ages who graduated from a high school in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol. Deadline May 1. Visit bit.ly/AAUW-LPDscholarship.

Talks

PLEASANTON WATER OPEN HOUSE Join the City of Pleasanton at the Veterans Memorial Building to learn about the City's water system where staff will be on hand to discuss how our water system works, upcoming projects and future needs and how projects are funded. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 1.

Employment

Fullstack Engineer (Job #: FE0206) sought by Enlighteens Education Inc. in Pleasanton, CA; Offer: \$130,250/yr. Reqmt: Bachelor's Deg in Comp Sci, Applied Math or rlt'd fields; 12 mos of exp as a Fullstack Engineer, S/ware Engineer, Machine Learning Dvlpr or rlt'd; Proficient in using SQL, Snowflake, Python & Pytorch; Telecommuting w/in the US is allowed; Work hrs are from 12 noon - 8 P.M. To apply, mail CV w/ Job ID# to Ben, 3037 Hopyard Rd. Ste R, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Lead Technical Recruiter - Pleasanton, CA: Develop & drive full-cycle recruiting process. Partner w/ account managers & leadership for developing strategy for identifying, engaging & closing world class technical talent. Must have Bachelor's (or foreign equiv.) deg. in human resource, mgmt, bus. or a closely related field. Will accept 3 or 4 yr. bachelor's deg. Requires 3 yrs. of work exp. Salary: \$125,000.00/yr. Mail resume to: Zest Consulting LLC., Ref. #8196, 4305 Hacienda Drive, Ste. 380, Pleasanton, CA 94588

To advertise here please visit [PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/](https://www.PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/).

LUXURY HOMES PREVIEW



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

Living in luxury in the Tri-Valley

What's on the inside and where it's located can be as important (if not more) as how the home looks from the outside

BY DEVIN DAVIS

A home in the Tri-Valley doesn't need to have a high price tag or a lot of square footage to be considered luxury.

"We live in California, where luxury to a lot of people includes a view, gated community or something near a golf course," said Tracey Esling, 2025 president for Bay East Association of Realtors.

"Luxury living comes in many forms," she said. "Indoors, it can be anything from paint color, rugs, and window coverings to spa showers, soaking tubs, and wine rooms. Outdoors, that could mean a swimming pool or adding an outdoor kitchen or a pergola."

Esling said that while there are homes in Pleasanton which meet that definition, there are many others that are luxurious for other reasons.

According to the National Association of Realtors, a luxury home is defined by properties with high prices, significant square footage and high-end amenities. While there are homes in the Tri-Valley and Pleasanton that have these characteristics, there are



Devin Davis

other things that make them "luxurious".

Esling said many homebuyers and current residents find luxury in both how a home functions and community amenities.

"For Pleasanton homeowners there's more to 'luxury' than just having a big or fancy home," Esling said, "Quality of life can also be as important, if not more important."

Easy access to a vibrant downtown, community events, high quality or unique restaurants or a short drive to schools is what can be considered living in luxury to many people in the Tri-Valley.

Esling said when people think about luxury in California, they're likely thinking of coastal homes with an oceanside view or winery estate homes, but if you're moving to the Tri-Valley that may not be something you care all that much about.

Homes on the market with a sale price exceeding \$1 million were once considered to be luxury according to NAR. The median sales price for a single-family detached home in Pleasanton has exceeded \$1 million for the last 10 years.

"People moving to the Tri-Valley from out of state or other regions of California may expect the prices they

pay to cater to the traditional sense of the word luxury, but once they're here, they adjust to the lifestyle that includes more than what they paid for their house," Esling said.

Esling shared that some amenities that may not have been considered a "luxury" became a must-have during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. NAR expressed a similar sentiment reporting amenities such as extra bedrooms and bathrooms, and homes on large lots, became necessities rather than just luxuries.

Those types of amenities have continued to add value post-pandemic as many Pleasanton homeowners are still able to work from home. "Luxury could mean having an extra room to use as a home office," Esling explained.

Esling concluded that lots of factors contribute to the luxuriousness of a home, saying, "Luxury is subjective, and here in the Tri-Valley, it's really anything that makes the difference between a property just being a house and becoming a home." ■

Editor's note: Devin Davis is the public affairs specialist for the Bay East Association of Realtors, based in Pleasanton.

Luxury agents offer expertise, service in niche market

Knowledge of pricing trends, community amenities and most importantly, the property and how to present it

BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

Luxury homes are high-end properties with premium amenities in exclusive areas, and buyers and sellers seek out real estate agents who specialize in this niche market.

Luxury real estate agents deal with the intricacies of luxury properties and offer services tailored to the specific needs of affluent clients, providing a level of expertise, service and access that exceeds that of traditional agents.

Market expertise is a must for luxury agents, but not only for the high-end real estate market and current trends and pricing for premium properties. Because community amenities and quality of life are important to buyers of luxury homes in the Tri-Valley, agents must have vast knowledge of the community the home is located in.

While location is very important, so is the property itself and a lot of care is put into the presentation. Realtors may collaborate with interior designers or stagers to ensure the property looks its best for private showings or high-profile events.

These private showings and events are part of the sophisticated marketing strategies often employed to showcase properties. Other techniques include high-quality photography, video tours and virtual walkthroughs.

Luxury homes are typically priced well above median market properties, so the agents who specialize in this market need to be well-versed in handling high-value

transactions. Buyers may not rely as heavily on traditional mortgage loans as traditional buyers, and might purchase homes with cash or through private financing. These transactions often involve complex negotiations and intricate contracts, so agents need to have excellent negotiating skills and legal and contractual knowledge.

Affluent clients value privacy, so luxury agents are skilled at maintaining confidentiality, often using off-market listings or private showings to protect their clients' privacy.

The agents are also expected to provide a level of service beyond just the sale of a property by offering a white-glove service, ensuring that every aspect of the transaction is seamless. This can include handling international transactions, dealing with complex tax issues, or arranging additional services like moving assistance or private security.

To accomplish this level of service, a luxury real estate agent has to have established relationships with lawyers, architects, designers and other professionals who are necessary for successful transactions.

One of the most important reasons for working with an experienced and respected luxury agent is efficiency. Buying or selling a luxury property involves more details and steps than a standard transaction, and agents manage all the logistics of the transaction, which saves high-end buyers and sellers valuable time. ■

SALES AT A GLANCE

PLEASANTON

(DEC. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 14
 Lowest sale reported: \$1,035,000
 Highest sale reported: \$4,550,000
 Average sales reported: \$1,981,321

LIVERMORE

(DEC. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 14
 Lowest sale reported: \$485,000
 Highest sale reported: \$2,100,000
 Average sales reported: \$1,165,642

DUBLIN

(DEC. 9-13)

Total sales reported: 10
 Lowest sale reported: \$685,000
 Highest sale reported: \$3,125,000
 Average sales reported: \$1,628,500

SAN RAMON

(JAN. 27-31)

Total sales reported: 7
 Lowest sale reported: \$422,000
 Highest sale reported: \$2,175,000
 Average sales reported: \$873,000

Source: California REsource

3062 W Ruby Hill Dr | Sold at \$6,690,000

3521 Valenza Way | Sold at \$2,715,000

17 Fairway Lane | Sold at \$2,970,000

4222 Remillard Ct | Sold at \$3,298,000

2257 Vineyard Heights Ln | Sold at \$3,425,000

601 Blossom Ct | Sold at \$3,410,000

6016 Tillman Ct | Sold at \$3,260,000

1134 Laguna Creek Ln | Sold at \$4,025,000

7694 Maywood Dr | Sold at \$2,570,000

43054 Gallegos Ave | Sold at \$2,525,000

1843 Sannita Ct | Sold at \$4,800,000

3509 Valenza Way | Sold at \$3,100,500

6023 Laurel Creek Dr | Sold at \$3,250,000

988 W Lagoon Rd | Sold at \$2,500,000

601 Blossom Ct | Sold at \$3,410,000

1192 Paladin Way | Sold at \$3,708,000

1843 Sannita Ct | Sold at \$4,800,000

3509 Valenza Way | Sold at \$3,100,500

6023 Laurel Creek Dr | Sold at \$3,250,000

988 W Lagoon Rd | Sold at \$2,500,000

601 Blossom Ct | Sold at \$3,410,000

1192 Paladin Way | Sold at \$3,708,000

3510 Valenza Way | Sold at \$5,100,000

6024 Laurel Creek Dr | Sold at \$4,025,000

2435 Crystal Dr | Sold at \$2,685,000

602 Blossom Ct | Sold at \$2,265,000

3122 Conti Ct | Sold at \$4,700,000

1569 Via Di Salerno | Sold at \$5,200,000

1833 Spumante Place | Sold at \$4,450,000

6036 Alpine Blue Dr | Sold at \$2,340,000

861 Owhanee Ct | Sold at \$3,200,000

2315 Westbridge Ln | Sold at \$4,250,000

1171 Sunset Creek Ln | Sold at \$3,060,000

6007 Laurel Creek Dr | Sold at \$3,036,000

4193 Grant Ct | Sold at \$3,010,000

6155 Clubhouse Dr | Sold at \$3,900,000

940 Mingoia | Sold at \$2,675,000

2324 Lakeside Circle | Sold at \$2,255,000

2112 Laguna Creek Ln | Sold at \$2,585,000

7285 Hickorywood Ln | Sold at \$2,325,000

340 Corrie Place | Sold at \$4,995,000

8026 Kingbird Ct | Sold at \$3,900,000



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VENEMA HOMES



Esling of Legacy in Livermore named Bay East president

'Realtor's job is creating the opportunity for clients to make memories and tell stories that will last a lifetime'

BY JEREMY WALSH

The Bay East Association of Realtors installed Tracey Esling of Legacy Real Estate & Associates in Livermore as its president for 2025 during a ceremony earlier this month.

Esling has more than 30 years of experience working in real estate and serves on the association's Executive, Local Government Relations, Political Activities, Investment Advisory, and Leadership, Evaluation and Selection committees. She also has statewide acumen, sitting on the California Association of Realtors Board of Directors.

Bay East officials said Esling has the mantra that "a Realtor's job is creating the opportunity for clients to make memories and tell stories that will last a lifetime" and her vision for her presidency "is to uplift the voice of Realtors with an emphasis on maintaining consumer perspective".

Also anointed during the installation ceremony on Feb. 1 were president-elect Bill Espinola of Parkview Realty in Hayward, treasurer Viviana Cherman of Elation Real Estate in Pleasanton and past-president Barbara Clemons of Coldwell Banker Realty in Pleasanton. Tricia Thomas is the association's CEO.



QUINN VO / BAY EAST ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
The 2025 Bay East Association of Realtors leadership team consists of (from left) Viviana Cherman (treasurer), Tracey Esling (president), Tricia Thomas (CEO), Barbara Clemons (past-president) and Bill Espinola (president-elect).

The full Bay East 2025 Board of Directors includes Nancie Allen (Compass, Fremont), June Burckhardt (Legacy Real Estate & Associates, Fremont), Don Faught (Compass, Pleasanton), Louis Heystek (Compass, Oakland), Tina Jackson-Walda (Suburban Homes Realty), Delores "Dee" Johnson (Delores Dee Johnson Realty, Oakland), Joe LoParo (KW Advisors, Alameda), Sharon Mancillas (KW Advisors, Alameda) and Simi Puri (Keller Williams Realty, Danville).

Also on the board are Frank Quismorio (Realty Experts, Fremont), Geraldine Ramirez (Bay City Real Estate Group, Pleasanton), Eliane Selwan (JPAR Iron Horse Real Estate Group, Pleasanton), Sinath Thi (Coldwell Banker Realty, Castro Valley), Paul Wong (Coldwell Banker Realty, Oakland), Garrick Yan (EXP Realty of California, San Ramon) and platinum affiliate director Trevor Frey (Supreme Lending, Brentwood).

Based in Pleasanton, Bay East is an industry trade organization that serves more than 6,000 residential and commercial real estate professionals in the Tri-Valley and greater East Bay. ■

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Katie Moe is deeply committed to making a lasting impact in the community through supporting local nonprofits, small businesses, and advocating for schools. Her dedication earned her recognition as a 2024 Pillars of Pleasanton honoree.

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DUBLIN: 4 BED 3 BATH 2,022 +/- SQ. FT
TOWNHOME: 3 BED 1.5 BATH 1,130 +/- SQ. FT

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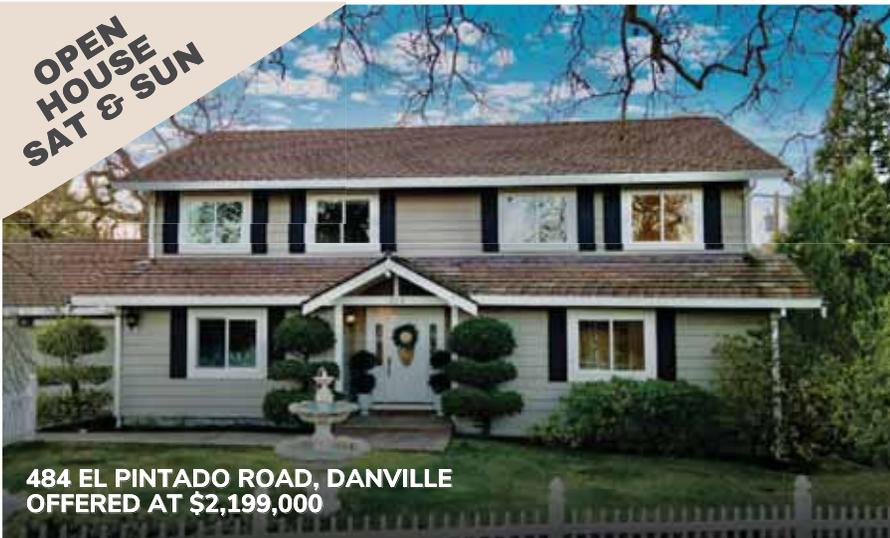


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