

Pleasanton Weekly

Going green for St. Patrick's Day

Page 15

VOL. XXVI, NUMBER 7 • MARCH 14, 2025

WWW.PLEASANTONWEEKLY.COM

Keeping the heart of Livermore healthy

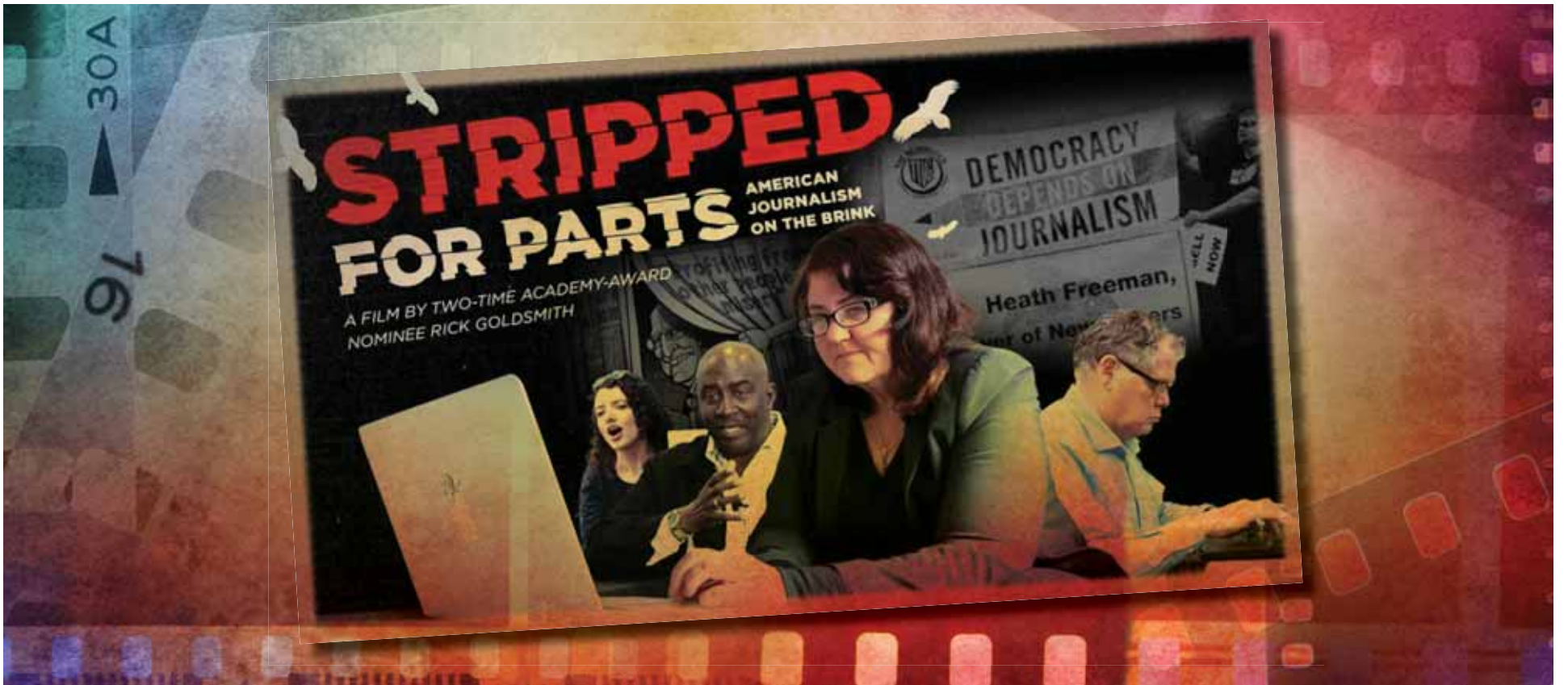
Residents, business owners, officials reflect on how far downtown has come and the direction it's headed

Page 12

DOWN TOWN SERIES

Panama Bay
PLEASANTON WEEKLY
25
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM

- 5 | **NEWS** Council to dip into pension fund to fight deficit
- 5 | **NEWS** Foothill wins We the People state championship
- 17 | **SPORTS** What a season for Amador Valley girls' soccer



STRIPPED FOR PARTS

AMERICAN JOURNALISM ON THE BRINK

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.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
2 – 4 P.M.

Pleasanton Public Library
400 Old Bernal Ave.,
Pleasanton

FREE ADMISSION

REGISTRATION & INFO

tinyurl.com/Stripped-for-Parts-film

SPACE IS LIMITED.

For more information:
gchannell@embarcaderomedia.org

SPONSORED BY



**USE CODE
TO REGISTER**



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY
[PleasantonWeekly.com/
become-a-member](http://PleasantonWeekly.com/become-a-member)

WHAT A WEEK



By JEREMY WALSH

Leisure lost

Tough to see the Tri-Valley losing another leisure activity staple at the end of this month, when Danville Bowl will turn the lights off on the lanes after one final night of rolling the rock.

It's more than just the impact on bowlers in the San Ramon Valley, who will now have to travel to existing alleys in Dublin or Livermore or the new Pinstripes in downtown Walnut Creek to get their fix of strikes and spares.

The closure represents yet another recreation opportunity gone from the area, somewhere close by that teenagers, families, couples, seniors and singles alike could go for a little fun.

That's how I ended up with memories made at Danville Bowl. Growing up in Benicia in the mid-2000s (as is still the case today), if my friends and I wanted to do an activity together, we had to go to Vallejo or across the bridge into Contra Costa County.

Bowling was one of the group outings in the rotation. We'd travel to Danville Bowl now and then; it stood out in part back then because of the incredible innovation that they had cameras at the end of the lanes that would show choppy black-and-white replays of the strike — or gutter ball as the case may be.

So now if you're a kid in the San Ramon Valley who wants your party at a bowling alley or some high schoolers who want a night out with friends, you've got to hop in the car and drive one to three towns away.

Same if the movie you want to see is sold out or not playing at THE LOT in City Center Bishop Ranch, ever since Regal Crow Canyon and Century Blackhawk Plaza shuttered in recent years.

Pleasanton teens can relate. Families and residents in general too. Want to see a movie in a real live theater? Drive over to Dublin or Livermore. The cinema proposed for Stoneridge Shopping Center back in 2019 seems like a pipe dream probably lost to the pandemic.

We also know Golden Skate in San Ramon is closing some time in the near future, with the property owner getting city approval to redevelop with housing. We have a cover story retrospective on the roller rink in the works.

We want to dig into a feature on Tommy T's Comedy Club too, a property that is on the so-called

"housing opportunity sites" list for the city of Pleasanton's current Housing Element. Those lists are good to keep an eye out for.

Folks in Pleasanton are also watching the Alameda County Fairgrounds more closely these days, for any sort of redevelopment potential, now that horse racing has been canceled for all of 2025 — and quite possibly forever, although I did see an online petition circulating among the last ditch efforts to save races at the historic track.

Pay attention to the future of the actual horse track and the golf course is my recommendation.

Advancing a coordinated plan after the racing industry exits a county fairgrounds is imperative. Trust me.

The Solano County Fairgrounds continues to waste away, one of those depressing reminders of what was in Vallejo. I learned to play golf on the nine-hole executive course in the middle of the race track, knocking the ball around "The Horse Course" starting at 5 years old.

As my childhood went on, horse racing waned there and then eventually stopped when I was in college. The golf course stayed open for a few years, surrounded by the decaying skeleton of the racing industry, before succumbing itself in 2014.

Overtaken by weeds, the former horse track and golf course have been an idle eyesore along the freeway for more than a decade.

Land-use changes, more often for the better than for the worse. But more importantly (and as tough as it is), it's a fact of life that's best to get used to.

Golf course properties hold a lot of redevelopment potential — a cloud hanging over us links lovers in the Bay Area on a regular basis.

The Tri-Valley right now can see the spectrum of promise to panic that comes with converting golf land.

It's great to watch Livermore city officials and community members be thoughtful and intentional about the future of the old Springtown golf course property, especially with trying to include leisure activity substitutes there.

Even if the debates are heated, driving an authentic conversation forward is vital.

Nothing is worse than seeing a former golf course property just sitting there, overgrowing and aimless, for years and years — ask any commuter who drives through the Sunol Valley on a daily basis. ■



COMPASS

FLASHBERGER

REAL ESTATE GROUP

DRE# 01243871 | 01001584

Realtor®, CRS, GRI, SRES

925.463.0436

Sue @SoldInAFlash.com

SoldInAFlash.com

A STUNNING HOME WITH A BACKYARD BUILT FOR MEMORIES ~ PERFECT FOR ENTERTAINING!



4244 WAYCROSS COURT, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,750 Sq Ft | 7,100 Sq Ft Lot
Listed at \$1,798,000

IMMACULATE SINGLE STORY HOME IN A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC



VAL VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD
3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,579 Sq Ft | 6,534 Sq Ft Lot

MULTIPLE OFFERS RECEIVED FOR THIS HIGHLY COVETED ESTATE IN VINEYARD HILLS!



2621 INGRID COURT, PLEASANTON
5 Bedrooms | 4 Baths | 3,950 Sq Ft | 0.94 Acre Lot
Listed at \$3,338,000

A HOT PROPERTY THAT SPARKED MULTIPLE OFFERS!



1363 HEARST DRIVE, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 3.5 Baths | 3,123 Sq Ft | 0.46 Acre Lot
Listed at \$3,098,000

THIS HOME HAS FOUND ITS MATCH! ~ MULTIPLE OFFERS RECEIVED!



6934 CALLE ALTAMIRA, PLEASANTON
3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths | 1,508 Sq Ft
Listed at \$1,650,000

SOLD IN A FLASH ~ GONE BEFORE IT HIT THE MARKET!



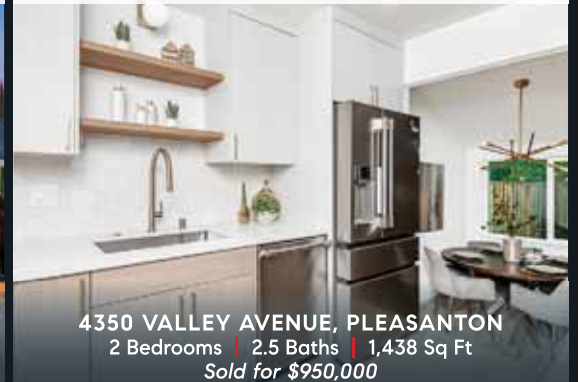
5540 CALICO LANE, PLEASANTON
5 Bedrooms | 4.5 Baths | 3,751 Sq Ft
Sold for \$3,050,000

ANOTHER SELLER SUCCESS STORY ~ SOLD IN A FLASH!



6379 ARLINGTON DRIVE, PLEASANTON
4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 2,675 Sq Ft
Sold for \$2,015,000

FROM LISTED TO LOVED ~ SOLD IN A FLASH!



4350 VALLEY AVENUE, PLEASANTON
2 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 1,438 Sq Ft
Sold for \$950,000

About the Cover

Through abundant construction in downtown Livermore, crowds continue to flock to the area for its restaurants, cafes or simply for a place to relax. Photos compiled by Jude Strzemp. Cover design by Doug Young. Vol. XXVI, Number 7

YOUR HOME DESERVES AN EXPERT

We can help you sell your home for the best price possible. Contact us to review our comprehensive home - selling services and complete marketing plan.

SUMMER

CAMP CONNECTION

Bothwell Arts Center's Art Camps

Livermore | (925) 373-6800
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

Summer@Stratford...Where adventures ignite imagination.

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

What are your plans for St. Patrick's Day this year?



Mary Wettig and Sabrina DePiero
Teacher | Scientist

We're planning to participate in Pleasanton's downtown beer crawl. We do this just about every year and we highly recommend it. It's just really that much fun. We even come from Livermore for it.



Daniel Schmidt
District manager

I'll be attending the St. Patrick's Day fair/festival in Dublin. I'm planning to bring my fiancée, and then together, we'll be meeting up with several other couples and additional friends.



Annmarie Cruce
High school student

I'm planning to spend the day with friends and family. Probably right here in downtown Pleasanton. I can't think of a better place to celebrate a holiday or any other happy occasion.



Hayden Schubert
High school student

I'm planning to spend the day with my grandparents. I'm going to take them to the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin. We've been going to it every single year since before I can even remember.



Travis Barros, with Poppy
Lydiksen Kids Club

Well, coincidentally, St. Patrick's Day falls on my brother's birthday every year. This year he's turning 21. So I plan to spend the day with him, celebrating his birthday. It's a pretty big milestone.

—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.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566. ©2025 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/camp_connection

To advertise, call (925) 621-1177 or email kklein@pleasantonweekly.com

DIGEST

Friends' book sale

Friends of the Pleasanton Library are hosting its spring book and media sale next week at the library downtown.

"Our biannual book sale is a great place to find wonderful treasures and gifts — or just a good book or two for yourself and your family. We always have an incredible selection of adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, games and puzzles," organizers said.

The sale, which raises money for the nonprofit that supports the library, runs from next Thursday to Sunday (March 20-23) at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

Culinary Angels run

Culinary Angels is in the midst of its fourth annual Courageous Cancer Awareness Virtual Fun Run, which encourages people to raise money and awareness by donating and tracking their personal running routes over the two weeks or by contributing to an existing runner or team.

The virtual event, which opened March 7 and continues through March 21, supports the nonprofit in its efforts to provide organic meals at no cost to people facing cancer and their caregivers in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville.

The fun run had raised \$10,744 as of Wednesday morning. Go to culinaryangels.org.

Fix-A-Leak Challenge

Zone 7 Water agency and its water providers in the Tri-Valley are again presenting their Water Wise Wendy Fix-A-Leak Challenge to motivate residents and property owners "to find and fix common household leaks that can waste thousands of gallons of water — and money — each year."

Now through March 31, residents of Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin and San Ramon's Dougherty Valley can submit photos of their "leak detective journey" for a chance to win an outdoor water adventure prize package. Visit zone7water.com/challenge.

Interfaith Iftar

The Muslim Community Center East Bay in Pleasanton is holding its Interfaith Iftar open to the community this weekend.

"Please join us this Sunday evening for an Iftar dinner experience as we observe the holy month of Ramadan and help create a better society by learning about one another," MCC East Bay leaders said. "Before dinner, we will be joined by the Vice Mayor of Dublin, Kashaf Qaadri, who will share his journey on finding faith through serving the community."

The event is set for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday (March 16). Visit mcceastbay.org to register. ■

Council directs staff to use money from pension fund to cut into deficit

Majority wants to take \$2M out of investment account over next two years to help pay CalPERS costs

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Pleasanton City Council told staff last week to plan on withdrawing \$2 million over the next two years from the Section 115 Pension Trust and use that money to help pay off its employee retirement costs as the city continues to develop its next budget.

Even though the city's actuary, Doug Pryor, told the council during its March 4 meeting that in an ideal world the city wouldn't touch the money in that supplementary trust fund early, most of the council agreed using some of the funds now would minimize the budget reductions they will have to make in the near future.

"This is an effort to smooth the reductions that we have to make," City Manager Gerry Beaudin said during the meeting. "We're talking about \$10.8 million (in reductions) ... this is essentially applying money that was set aside for the pension — earlier than an actuary might recommend — practically to smooth us into budget reductions."

"It gives us time to orient ourselves to the reductions that are in front of us and make those harder decisions but hopefully not going as deep as we would have to," he added.

Pleasanton has two pension and retirement plans: its CalPERS pension plan and its other post-employment benefits plan. No decisions

were made in regards to the OPEB last week because of how well that plan is doing financially, staff said.

In 2018, the city established its Section 115 Pension Trust in order to address its unfunded retiree medical and pension liabilities, which exceeds \$200 million. According to the city, the total market value for the trust fund at the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year was \$51.1 million.

Pryor said the purpose of the trust is to set aside funds and earn greater returns than the city's general fund could in order to stabilize pension costs in future years. The trust also serves as a buffer for rising pension costs.

Last year, one of the top critiques

made by opponents of the half-cent increase sales tax measure — Measure PP, which ultimately failed at the polls in November — was that the city should have looked at possibly drawing from that pension fund in order to address the ongoing budget challenges, which include a projected \$10 million deficit every year for the next few years.

According to the city's website, financial advisers — including an actuarial consultant — previously recommended that the city "refrain from using these funds in the near term to bridge the budget deficit" because doing so could "hinder the

See DEFICIT on Page 8



COURTESY PUSD

Foothill High School's We the People team celebrates after winning the state competition.

Foothill's We the People team wins state championship

Falcons head back to nationals after taking third last year

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Foothill High School's competitive civics team is once again heading to the national We the People finals in Washington, D.C. after taking home first place in the state championships last month.

Graham McBride, the Falcons' We the People coach, told the Weekly that while he is overwhelmed with the positive results Foothill's team has had in recent years — last year's group earned third place at nationals — he recognizes the competition will be

fierce due to the program being so successful across the country.

"Foothill High School has never won the national title in We the People," he said. "It's the dream. It's something that I knock on wood for."

However, he is holding out hope for his students to win at the D.C. competition from April 9-11 and said his students are capable of winning — it's just a matter of stars aligning.

"I think that it's not a matter of the kids not being capable," McBride said. "These kids are rock

stars. It's just a matter of the right mixture of ingredients at some point in the future, and all we can do is hope that we get that mixture correct."

We the People is a national educational program where high school seniors demonstrate their understanding of the U.S. government and the Constitution by participating in simulated congressional hearings, according to the program's website.

These high school teams

See WE THE PEOPLE on Page 9

Kaiser closing lab in Dublin

No other aspect of medical center affected by change

By JEREMY WALSH

The outpatient laboratory at Kaiser Permanente's Dublin Medical Offices and Cancer Center will shut its doors next month due to low usage, according to the health system.

Kaiser representatives assured members that their lab needs could be met nearby at its offices in Pleasanton or Livermore and that no other services were being changed at the six-year-old medical complex between Dublin Boulevard and Interstate 580 — after the wording in an initial announcement created some confusion among patients last week.

"Because of the low number of patients using outpatient lab services at the Dublin Medical Offices and Cancer Center, the Outpatient Laboratory is closing on April 6," Kaiser said in a statement to the Pleasanton Weekly on Friday afternoon. "There is not enough use of the service there to keep it open full time, and having it open only part-time could cause inconvenience or even confusion for our patients."

"No other services at the Dublin Medical Offices are affected by

See KAISER on Page 9

‘Education is a fundamental right’

Hundreds rally in Livermore to support LGBTQIA+ students, immigrant families, Department of Education

By JUDE STRZEMP

A crowd of nearly 300 people rallied downtown Livermore last week to advocate for LGBTQIA+ students and immigrant families as well as the U.S. Department of Education amid recent threats of its dismantlement under the Trump administration.

Students, educators, city leaders and other community members waved signs with phrases like “Equality Hurt No One,” “Save our Democracy” and “Fight Ignorance, not Immigrants” during the March 4 demonstration at Livermorium Plaza.

Meanwhile speakers — including Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District trustees Steven Drouin and Christiaan VandenHeuvel as well as Livermore City Councilmember and former LVJUSD trustee Kristie Wang and Pleasanton Unified School District Trustee Charlie Jones — rose before the crowd in support of a safe and high-quality public education for every student.

The rally called “Speak Up for Students and Public Education” was organized by Livermore Advocates for Public Education, a community group that promotes and defends educational policies to benefit all students. Rally co-sponsor Livermore Indivisible, advocates for social justice, democratic values and equitable education policies.

“Education is a fundamental right, and we must take action to protect it,” Livermore Advocates for Public Education representative



COURTESY JOANNE MORRISON

Students, educators, public officials and the larger community advocated for LGBTQIA+ students, immigrant families and continuation of the U.S. Department of Education at a public demonstration in Livermore on March 4.

Joanne Morrison said in a statement. “We are gathered to demand that the U.S. Department of Education be preserved and that no federal policies be instituted that harm students — especially LGBTQIA+ students and those whose family members may be undocumented immigrants.”

The community support for the DOE, which aims to foster equal access to education and its overall excellence, was a response to

President Donald Trump’s intention of shuttering the department.

“That department serves the underprivileged students and the most vulnerable students in our education system,” Morrison said.

More specifically, the DOE establishes policy, administers and monitors most federal funding for education, according to its website. Funding from the DOE is directed toward programs that benefit special education, low-income,

unhoused, minority and English-language learner students, Wang explained. It also funds school nutrition programs and those for career and technical pathways.

The DOE also collects data on schools in the U.S. for reporting to Congress, educators and the general public; identifies and brings attention to major issues in education and enforces federal statutes prohibiting discrimination in programs and activities receiving

federal funds to ensure equal access to education for everyone.

“Despite the actions and attempts by this current administration to undermine and defund our schools, we are here to say public education matters,” VandenHeuvel said at the rally.

Wang, who immigrated to the U.S. as a young child who didn’t speak English, said she directly benefited from programs funded by the DOE.

Everyday, her school provided lunch through a nutrition program and an ESL class where she said she took refuge and learned how to speak English. Support from the DOE continued to affect her trajectory, as a federal grant allowed her the means to attend college, she said.

“My family could barely keep food on the table, honestly, and there was no money left over to save for college,” Wang said of the 10 years in the U.S. prior to attending college. “The only way I was able to go to college was a Pell Grant that paid almost my entire college education.”

Wang continued, “I was one of those kids — low-income, English-learner, first-gen college student — and I turned that education into a career in public service. I worked in nonprofits, I worked in the public sector to make everyone’s lives better.”

Drouin extended the LVJUSD board’s support of undocumented and LGBTQIA+ students, which

See RALLY on Page 7

Pleasanton launches new ‘Budget Engagement Tool’

As city leaders weigh millions in cuts, residents asked to weigh in online through March 24

By CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The city of Pleasanton has recently launched a “Budget Engagement Tool”, which is open to the public until March 24, where residents can weigh in on upcoming budget cuts.

The new online tool, according to a press release from the city, will allow community members to provide input on budget adjustments the city will need to make in order to reach its target of roughly \$10 million in budget reductions.

“Community engagement sets the foundation of a transparent and effective budget process. By involving our residents and businesses, we ensure that our financial decisions reflect the ideas and interests of the people we serve,” City Manager Gerry Beaudin said in the press release. “This new online tool provides another opportunity for the community to participate in the budget process and offer valuable feedback.”

Pleasanton is currently developing its two-year budget for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 fiscal year, while also dealing with a structural deficit projected to average approximately \$13 million every year over the next decade — staff have said the deficit could go up to \$22 million if the country enters into a recession.

Last year, the previous City Council placed Measure PP — a half-cent sales tax increase revenue measure — on the November ballot in hopes residents would pass the measure, which staff said would have generated about \$10 million in revenue each year. But after Measure PP failed, staff have had to shift gears in order to address the deficit.

To that end, the city has identified a “need for approximately \$10 million in ongoing General Fund reductions in each of the next two fiscal years,” Beaudin said in a memorandum ahead of this week’s Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

That’s why the city is looking for

input to help cut \$7 million remaining from the overall \$10 million annual budget deficit — \$3 million in internal cuts have already been identified, according to the city.

“These reduction options include service reductions proposals across every city department, as well as \$3.3 million in internal operational reductions,” Beaudin said in his staff report ahead of the BAC meeting, which was set for Thursday after the Weekly’s press deadline.

Beaudin said staff have already identified \$14.7 million in potential reductions across all city departments, which he said could go into effect in the next fiscal year.

But those reductions are not set in stone, which is why the city is still seeking out public input before finalizing their list of reduction recommendations to the council.

During its budget development process, the city has taken several steps to provide transparency and encourage community

participation. These steps included conducting an independent financial assessment of the city’s forecast.

The independent financial assessment, conducted by certified public accounting firm Eide Bailly, validated the methodology used to develop the city’s financial forecast and confirmed the city’s projected structural budget deficit.

The city also recently spoke with an actuarial firm to “make recommendations related to potential strategies, risks, and benefits for utilizing pension trust funds,” which resulted in the City Council majority expressing support for withdrawing approximately \$2 million in one-time pension trust fund dollars to help address the budget deficit over the next two fiscal years during its March 4 meeting.

In regards to community engagement, the city held a “Budget Town Hall” meeting last month to discuss financial challenges and possible solutions with residents. Community

members are being encouraged to review the materials from the town hall and other materials outlining potential budget reductions before providing additional input into the online budget engagement tool.

The BAC previously met in February to review the list, rank the different reductions based on impact to the community and share preliminary feedback.

Now, the BAC is being asked to review the 28 proposed reductions and confirm its recommendations to the council — the goal is to present the list of proposed reductions to the council along with the draft of the budget in May, Beaudin said in his memorandum.

According to the memo, the top three categories listed in the proposed 28 budget reductions were in internal services and operational support — parks, streets, library, recreation, police and fire were all categories ranked toward the end of the list. ■

Finances, enrollment lead State of the District

Ghysels and Brown discuss parcel tax, recent budget cuts and future revenue opportunities

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

Pleasanton Unified School District Interim Superintendent Maurice Ghysels and school board President Justin Brown delivered the 2025 PUSD State of the District late last month where the two updated the community on issues mainly concerning the district's ongoing budget challenges.

The annual event, which is hosted by the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education took place on Feb. 20 at the Firehouse Arts Center. Roughly half of the Firehouse auditorium was filled with community members, school officials and city leaders who learned about what has been going on in the district over the past year.

Andrea Wilson, executive director of the PPIE, updated the group about how the nonprofit has invested in the district over the past years with things like allocated funding for intervention specialists to help students in need of additional support.

Pleasanton Mayor Jack Balch was one of the leaders in attendance who took time during his opening remarks to talk about the entire community's support of the district.

"To me, there is a deep and symbiotic relationship between the city and its schools and school district," Balch said. "A partnership that is essential and that benefits all of us."

And in PPIE's case, that relationship was evident when Wilson announced that the nonprofit will be financially supporting the elementary school music programs for the 2025-26 school year. The program had been brought up in consideration of being cut amid recent budget reduction discussions.

"By listening to our families and taking input as to what is important to them and to our district, we will shift a portion of our funding to help support the music specialists

at that elementary level going forward," Wilson said.

She said the nonprofit will utilize fundraising dollars to support the program in order to "ensure it doesn't end up on the chopping block".

Those budget reductions were also a large part of the update that morning as Ghysels went over the district's financial issues.

Competitive salaries and benefits; low state funding due to Pleasanton being an affluent area; one-time COVID relief funds being depleted; and the state providing only a 1% cost-of-living adjustment increase last year were just some of the factors that caused the district's financial challenges, Ghysels said.

However, one of the biggest factors continues to be declining enrollment.

"Every student that walks in the door is revenue of \$12,000, and change, per student," Ghysels said.

According to the presentation last month, PUSD's budget is down \$18 million due to declining enrollment — that mixed with all the other factors has caused the district to use its savings in order to balance its budget as it works through this structural deficit.

However, he also talked about how district staff did anticipate these budget issues, which is why over the past two years they have been working on reorganizing the district and leaving positions open intentionally so the district didn't have to spend the extra money.

Ghysels also praised the Board of Trustees and the community for the work everyone has done in regards to the recent budget reduction discussions.

"There's nothing to celebrate about reductions," Ghysels said. "There's many people that are going to be laid off. A lot of people are not because we kept positions. But

I have to tell you, I want to applaud the trustees because they worked (hard)."

He said between the Budget Advisory Committee's work, the over 40 listening sessions and the over 20 hours the board committed to working through choosing which reductions to make, he believes the community has gotten stronger and has a better relationship with the district.

While the two district officials went over several reasons PUSD ended up in a structural deficit, they also talked about the future and how the district plans on pursuing endeavors to increase its revenue — possibly through the use of a parcel tax.

"It's such an anomaly to be in this community and not have a parcel tax," Ghysels said. "It's a head scratcher."

Brown pointed out that even though other surrounding districts like Fremont, Oakland and Dublin have parcel taxes, the board knew it was not an appropriate time to pursue a parcel tax for last year's election.

That's why instead, he said the district had been working on looking at cuts internally before asking for such a tax, which is what he believes has happened through all of the rightsizing these last two years.

"Now that we've appropriately sized our schools and our central services, we are now in a position, I believe, to reconsider (a parcel tax)," Brown said.

Ghysels also touched on PUSD's recent efforts to increase enrollment by pitching their schools to

parents who work in Pleasanton. The idea there, Ghysels said, is for the parents who might be commuting to Pleasanton from other cities to drop off their children at a PUSD school while they go off to work.

"Flat is the new growth," Ghysels said. "If we can stop declining (enrollment), good enough."

He said by working with companies like Costco — where PUSD will be making their pitch to over 300 workers — and even organizations like the city, PUSD can possibly bring hundreds of new students, which equals millions of dollars in state funding.

And as far as the search for the

new superintendent, the board is now working with a search firm and Brown said it is the district's intent to have someone in place for July 1.

After PUSD's update, Wilson used the remainder of the event to present PPIE's Pillars of Pleasanton Awards to several local businesses that contribute to helping out the schools.

This year's recipients include Van Pelt Construction, Robert Half Inc., Vulcan Material Company, Katie Moe of Connect California Homes, Jing Xue Team of Coldwell Banker and Karen Braga of Karen's Yard Cards. ■

TAKE US ALONG



Pen pals in the Alps:

Sabine Meyer from Bremen, Germany and Barbara McCarrick from Pleasanton, who have been pen pals since they were in the fourth grade, traveled together to the Swiss Alps last September.

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.

RALLY

Continued from Page 6

approved a policy in February to **protect all students** regardless of immigration status, he explained. Drouin added, the district's non-discrimination policy includes sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression to make sure LGBTQIA+ students are safe at school.

"Undocumented students are our kids," Drouin said. "Regarding LGBTQIA+ students, especially transgender and nonbinary students, all kids are our kids."

He added, "I know people are nervous, but I am confident in our district's ability to maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment where all kids can thrive."

Meanwhile at PUSD, Jones said

there is an ongoing effort to pass a resolution declaring the district as a sanctuary for LGBTQ+ students.

"It's not enough to resist. We need to build more, push further and farther and hold our electeds accountable to the promises they made when they ran, that we back them for," Jones said.

Opposition to the rally was minimal as only a few people driving trucks flying Trump flags circled the block and honked their horns in protest.

"A lot of people are feeling a great deal of despair with the things that are happening at the national level," Morrison said. "You can't fix everything in Washington, but you can focus right here in our community and make a difference here and if you do that you realize you do have power." ■

Your Neighborhood Estate Planning Solution

Conveniently Located in Downtown Pleasanton

We Create and Update Living Trusts

Accomplish Your Family's Needs and Priorities:

- ✓ New Trusts
- ✓ Update Existing Trusts
- ✓ All Trusts Include:
 - Power of Attorney
 - Financial
 - Health Care



Creating Peace of Mind for You
~Security for Your Family~

DECARLI LAW
WILLS • TRUSTS • ESTATE PLANNING

480 St. John Street, Suite 260
Corner of St. John and Peters
Downtown Pleasanton

In the same building as the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT
(925)568-2350

LVJUSD projects fiscal solvency following reductions

Classified union claims contract violation; employees await layoff notices

By JUDE STRZEMP

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District appears on track to meet its financial obligations for the 2024-25 fiscal year and two subsequent years after cuts to staff-time and non-personnel costs, according to its second interim budget report.

The LVJUSD Board of Education voted unanimously for the report's "positive certification" to denote financial solvency in the current fiscal year and the next two years, at its March 4 regular meeting. This signifies a financial upturn from the first interim budget report due December 2024 that received a "qualified certification," meaning the district might not have been able to meet its financial obligations for the current or two subsequent years.

The district is able to return to fiscal solvency due to budget reductions approved by the board Feb. 18, including cuts to approximately 40 full-time equivalents, assistant superintendent of business services Kayla Wasley explained.

Despite the positive monetary outlook, the district is still expected to deficit spend until the last projected year of 2026-27. Though deficit spending is projected to shrink from about \$14.66 million this fiscal year to just over \$650,000 in 2026-27.

Also, staff cuts concerned

California School Employees Association president Mamie Kristovich, who said the district has been non-collaborative about reductions and is currently violating the collective bargaining agreement within multiple departments. CSEA has since filed a cease and desist letter with the district regarding the reported violations.

"I'm glad we're getting out of the qualified and I recognize this is a lot of work to dive through this and figure it out," Board President Emily Prusso said. "But I think that in order to attract and retain staff and teachers, we have to get to a place where we can be balanced and positive."

According to the report, the district is projected to meet the minimum reserves requirement of 3% this fiscal year with an unrestricted ending fund balance of \$9.4 million or 4.17% of general fund expenditures. The district is also projected to meet the minimum reserves in 2025-26 and 2026-27 with an unrestricted ending fund balances of \$6.7 million (3.2% reserve) and \$6.4 million (3.2% reserve), respectively.

These projections are based on the period from July 1, 2024 to Jan. 31, 2025 and serves as a guide for staff and the board to make financial decisions. The report also allows the Alameda County Office of Education and state to review the district's fiscal viability for the

current and two subsequent years, according to the report. As one of the three financial statements annually required of school districts — in addition to the adopted budget — the report must be submitted to the county Office of Education by March 15.

Of great uncertainty is the future of federal funding, Wasley said at the meeting. This accounts for about 6% of the district's revenue and goes toward programs including the School Meal Program, Magnet Grant and School Based Mental Health Grant.

Trustee Steven Drouin expressed concern regarding the district's compliance and eligibility for federal funding, amid unspecified executive orders under President Donald Trump.

Among his executive orders is "Ending Radical Indoctrination in K-12 Schooling" wherein schools risk losing federal funding for diversity-related initiatives, according to the White House website.

Wasley explained, the district is being careful about what is included in grants like the mental health grant, to ensure they are not entering the realm of diversity, equity and inclusion.

With regards to the approved staff reductions, including about 11 full-time equivalent CSEA members, Kristovich said the union has not been invited to collaborate with the district.

"Before we eliminate positions, doesn't it make good business sense to first have a well thought out plan on how the work will get done?" Kristovich asked the board.

Additionally, the the union says the district is violating the collective bargaining agreement with CSEA in several departments, including business services and curriculum. Another violation is anticipated in the special education department given the proposed elimination of 1.0 FTE transportation specialist.

Kristovich explained, duties performed by CSEA members may not be reassigned to classified managers and confidentials, directors, contractors, volunteers or employees in other bargaining units; different classification without negotiations or to the remaining employees in a department with the expectation that the same amount of work be completed.

One reported violation has taken place within business services, where a vacant role of accounting specialist has shifted work onto other employees and the transfer of classified duties to a manager.

An expected lay off of the transportation specialist within the special education department would mean redistribution of the workload, but they could not be transferred to the transportation contractor, as that would violate the collective bargaining agreement.

"The dedicated members of CSEA's Livermore chapter are asking for the contract violations to stop, now," Kristovich said. "Please help put an end to the multiple contract violations and insist on the district having meaningful and genuine collaborations with CSEA."

The district did not respond to a request for comment regarding the cease and desist letter as of Tuesday afternoon.

In response to Kristovich, Trustee Craig Bueno encouraged the district to collaborate with CSEA. "It is concerning when people come forward and address us and say that there's a lack of collaboration or an absence," Bueno said. "Whatever it takes, we need to resolve that."

For Becca Makris, office specialist at Granada High School, layoff notices due by March 15 and subject to retraction are a cause for concern.

"We are all holding our breath, waiting to see what will happen next, but there is no end in sight. We feel like we're under water with time just ticking away," Makris said.

The board meeting to determine final staff reductions is scheduled for May 6.

The board also unanimously approved new high school courses including developing mixed choir A/B, intermediate concert choir A/B, chamber winds honors, symphonic band A/B and human anatomy and physiology A/B. All the proposed courses include the California State Standards and support students in their pursuit of college and career readiness, according to the agenda. ■

DEFICIT

Continued from Page 5

City's ability to meet future pension obligations".

But after last week's discussion, four of the five council members agreed that they should use some of the fund.

"For me, I would like to preserve the principal so that we could use this \$2 million in 2025 and \$2 million in 2026 to look at offsetting or softening the blow to our community members," Mayor Jack Balch said.

Pryor reiterated various times throughout the meeting that the supplemental trust can really only be used to pay either CalPERS directly or to reimburse the city for CalPERS payments.

"We're not withdrawing money to pay for general fund expenses," Councilmember Jeff Nibert clarified. "We're withdrawing it to reduce our CalPERS contributions from the general fund in that particular year."

However, Pryor said to the extent the city uses the supplemental trust to pay part of its CalPERS bill, what the city is really doing is slowing down the progress of reaching its 100% funding target for its pension and retirement plans.

He said as an actuary he doesn't have to balance a budget like the

city does, which is why his original recommendation was to not take out any money from the trust.

"If I look at the plan and you said 'what do you suggest I do?' I would say continue on your path," Pryor said. "Don't take any money out of the supplemental trust. You're at 75% funded on the CalPERS plan ... continue towards that 100% target — that's where you want to be, that's where you should be long term."

Councilmember Julie Testa was the only member on the dais who agreed with the original recommendation of not using any of the funds yet.

"I know it's hard to understand how we're going to manage the next 10 years, so I suspect that some of this funding is going to get used, but tonight I'm just going to say just because we can, doesn't mean we should," Testa said.

Testa recalled when the pension structure in Pleasanton was originally proposed more than 20 years ago and how the city was told at the time it wouldn't cost a dime. Now, she said they are looking at making \$40 million in pension payments over the next 20 years and because of that, they need to be careful in how they spend the trust money.

"It's so overwhelming that over the next 10 years, the amount increases when we're already unable

to make the full payments ... and it will increase so significantly over the next 10 years," Testa said. "If we start using that 115 (fund), it only makes it worse. It is truly kicking the can down the road."

However, Pryor also recognized the city has this supplemental trust and that at some point the city is going to send that money to CalPERS, it's just a matter of when — which is why he provided two different scenarios where the city starts transferring money to CalPERS sooner.

'This is an effort to smooth the reductions that we have to make.'

Gerry Beaudin,
Pleasanton city manager

"The primary purpose of the supplemental trust is to be able to manage these upticks in the contributions (to CalPERS)," Pryor said. "To do it now ... it just gives you less ability to deal with this if things go bad in the future."

Pryor said once the city goes down the path of starting to transfer money out of the trust, they are still stuck with a 75% funded CalPERS

plan and the city is still inevitably deferring or delaying the time over which it is going to get that plan to 100% funded.

But due to the city's ongoing budget challenges, the council majority still thought that taking the \$2 million over the next two years to help pay the city's pension and retirement costs will offer some help.

"It's essentially allowing us to top off or take that extra bit," Beaudin said. "Yes, it's all money that the city has generated over time, it's all money that we're putting toward the pension — it's just creating some general fund relief by using the trust."

The idea of adjusting and making policies on how or if the city wants to continue taking money out of the trust was tossed around by councilmembers Matt Gaidos and Craig Eicher, the latter of whom said he wants to see a long-term plan for how and when they use the fund, especially with changing financial situations in the future.

Beaudin said there will be opportunities to bring up the issue of when to use the trust fund in the future and that the city will hit pause on using the trust after the two years are up and the city looks at developing its following two-year budget.

Eicher also clarified that as the

city makes its CalPERS contributions, they are bringing down the liability every year. However, when he asked if the city could use the trust in an economic pinch over time to put them on better financial footing, Beaudin made it clear that in the long run, taking the money out of the trust is not beneficial.

"If it's the aggregate of our total financial situation, we're not on better footing. We're using one-time money to bridge our operational, structural deficit, which is not solving our overall financial situation," Beaudin said. "Our costs are still high and we're pulling money off the trust to pay the pension, which doesn't make us better off in the long run, it actually leaves us further behind."

That's why Testa reiterated that she did not want to dip into the funds, even though that is what the council ended up agreeing to at the end of the discussion, and said the city knows it shouldn't be spending the money but because Measure PP failed, they have to find ways to alleviate the "extreme cuts that our community is now going to suffer."

"When we look at these graphs and we look at the better case (scenario), in 2038 — even with this 115 trust — we have to figure out how to pay \$36 million payments," Testa said. ■

Stapleton named Community of Character Collaborative president

Former Juanita Haugen Award winner succeeds new Councilman Eicher in nonprofit role

By JEREMY WALSH

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative selected one of its board members and former award winners Marie Stapleton to serve as the nonprofit's next president.

In a statement over the weekend announcing the appointment, collaborative officials lauded Stapleton as the right person to succeed Craig Eicher — who stepped down to focus on his new role on the Pleasanton City Council — and lead the nonprofit in its mission to “motivate the Pleasanton community to make a difference in the world around them.”

“I strongly believe in the values of the Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative — compassion, honesty, respect, responsibility, integrity and self-discipline,” Stapleton told the Weekly on Monday night.

“As someone who has been actively involved in the community for many years, I’ve seen firsthand the impact that strong character traits have in building a supportive and inclusive community,” she added. “I am excited to work with the group to further promote our values and strengthen character development in Pleasanton.”

Stapleton and husband Pdraig,

both Irish immigrants, moved to Pleasanton 23 years ago. “The community and its values were something they strongly believed in and knew that raising their kids there would put them on the right path for building their own lives,” collaborative officials said.

She stepped away from a career in engineering and tech marketing leadership to focus on raising their three children. During that time, Stapleton



Marie Stapleton

served on a number of local organizations such as the Pleasanton Mothers Group, Futures Explored and Amador Friends of Music — and of course, the collaborative.

“The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is a group of dedicated people working to promote our values and recognize both students and adults in our community that emulate those values,” Stapleton told the Weekly. “My goal is to make the organization’s mission more visible in our community and inspire more kids and young adults to live our values at school, in their sports and recreational activities and with their families.”

One of Stapleton’s early tasks as president will be leading the annual Community of Character Collaborative Luncheon on May 14 in which the nonprofit will hand out its Juanita Haugen Community of Character Awards and its Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarships. Stapleton won a Juanita Haugen Award in 2015.

Nominations for the 2025 awards are open through April 11 — for “an individual or a nonprofit group demonstrating a commitment to our Community of Character traits through their volunteer work within our community.” Visit communityofcharacter.org. ■

WE THE PEOPLE

Continued from Page 5

compete every year at their respective state events in order to get a chance to represent their state at the national level.

The 2025 state finals took place over the first weekend of February where dozens of other competitive civics teams from other schools competed for first place, which Foothill claimed in the end.

According to the program, Arcadia High School — a school located north of Los Angeles — placed second while Pleasanton’s Amador Valley High School placed third.

But McBride said having been a coach for Foothill’s team over the last six years and having gone through the program himself, one thing he has always tried to tell his students is that winning these competitions is not solely what the program is about.

He said We the People is a non-partisan program that leans into the fact that they get a lot of kids with different political viewpoints on major political issues and so that students — by nature of program — are forced to find common ground, which McBride said is a much needed skill in these polarizing times.

“It can be very easy to focus only on disagreements in our society, and it can be much harder to find common ground,” he said. “When you encourage students to find that common ground, it kind of imparts to them a little bit as to why finding common ground is necessary and what necessary effort ... that it takes to find common ground.”

He said he tells kids he doesn’t care about political views, he cares about them understanding how their government works.

“At its best, it’s a program about optimism for the future,” McBride said. “We don’t teach our students

to blindly accept any kind of conclusion. It’s a lot of addressing the difficult problems, talking about the different types of solutions to those problems.”

“In the end, it’s a lot about finding common ground, learning to engage and understand our system a little bit and in the end, make for a better and more prepared citizen,” he added.

He said he has been really lucky to have students who are committed to the program because it does take a lot of accountability on the student. Unlike a typical class setting, McBride said his students spend hours after class training because to them, it’s about more than just a grade — it’s about competing at that high level.

That’s why he said his students are more than capable enough to win nationals this year and that all he can really do as a coach is step out of their way and push them to do their best. ■

KAISER

Continued from Page 5

this change, including Cancer Center services. We will continue to serve the laboratory needs of the cancer center clinics,” the Kaiser statement added. “Members seeking laboratory services can continue to visit our Pleasanton or Livermore Medical Offices and can walk-in or make appointments conveniently at kp.org or via the KP app.”

The end of outpatient lab services in Dublin did not result in any job losses, as impacted lab employees were able to be relocated to other nearby facilities, according to Kaiser.


After the initial closure notice went out to Kaiser members via

email, some speculated last week whether the cancer center — or overall facility — would also be shutting down.

“We want to inform you that our Outpatient Laboratory at the Dublin Medical Offices and Cancer Center will be closing on April 6. We understand that this may be an inconvenience and we sincerely appreciate your understanding,” the email message read.

While confirming that only the outpatient lab would be affected, Kaiser also affirmed to the Weekly it “remains committed to the Tri-Valley community ... We always aim to provide our members with high-quality, convenient care. The Dublin Medical Offices and Cancer Center remains open and continues to serve our members.” ■

Want to get news briefs emailed to you every weekday?

Sign up for Express, our daily e-edition. Go to PleasantonWeekly.com.express to sign up. 

McNerney introduces ‘No Robo Bosses Act’

Bill would prevent employers from relying solely on AI for hiring, promotions or discipline

By BAY CITY NEWS SERVICE

State Sen. Jerry McNerney (D-Pleasanton) announced the “No Robo Bosses Act” in Sacramento last week.

The first-of-its-kind bill aims to ensure human oversight of artificial intelligence in workplace decisions, according to a March 6 press release from McNerney’s office.

Senate Bill 7 would prevent California employers from relying solely on AI, also known as automated decision-making systems (ADS), for hiring, promotions, discipline, or termination, the senator’s office said.

It would also reportedly ban AI systems from using personal data to predict a worker’s future behavior.

“Businesses are increasingly using AI to boost efficiency and productivity in the workplace. But there are

currently no safeguards to prevent machines from unjustly or illegally impacting workers’ livelihoods and working conditions,” McNerney said.

The bill is sponsored by the California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO.

“No worker should have to answer to a robot boss when they are fearful of getting injured on the job, or when they have to go to the bathroom or leave work for an emergency,” said Lorena Gonzalez, president of the California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO, representing over 1,300 unions with 2.3 million union members.

SB 7 is co-authored by assemblymembers Sade Elhawary (D-South Los Angeles) and Isaac Bryan (D-Los Angeles). ■

TAILS AT TWILIGHT



BLACK & WHITE
Ball

11th annual
*Tails at
Twilight*

Saturday, April 12,
6-11 pm

Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery

*A premier Gala benefiting
Valley Humane Society
Presented by Rondo Energy*

**Get tickets at:
valleyhumane.org**



Community Pulse

POLICE BULLETIN

Amador Valley students involved in weekend stabbing

The Pleasanton Police Department arrested a Pleasanton teenager who allegedly stabbed two 18-year-olds in the leg over the weekend.

The students involved in the altercation were Amador Valley High School students, according to Patrick Gannon, director of communications for the Pleasanton Unified School District.

"We're following up with the families involved to see if they need support," Gannon said.

The situation unfolded at around 11 p.m. Saturday night when officers responded to reports of a fight involving roughly 10 teenagers near the 1000 block of Harvest Circle, police said in a social media post Monday morning.

The incident was purportedly a result of a party where two groups of teenagers got into a fight; however, PPD has not confirmed that detail or provided a motive for the stabbing.

PPD also stated that the incident was an isolated one and that there is

"no ongoing threat to public safety". The department said it would not be releasing further details at this time as the investigation remains active.

The two victims — who are also Pleasanton residents — were both transported to local hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries, according to police.

Lt. Nicholas Albert told the Weekly that PPD could not "release the name of the suspect due to his classification of a juvenile under the age of 18," but according to the department's post, the suspect was booked at juvenile hall for assault with a deadly weapon. Albert said whether the suspect is charged with two counts or one is up to the Alameda County District Attorney's Office.

In regards to safety at school, Gannon said the district will continue to work with PPD and the school's resource officer to ensure a safe environment.

"We're in constant contact with the Pleasanton Police Department," Gannon said. "We're fortunate to have a School Resource Officer that we work very close with, along with the PPD, to work with families and students and make sure that our campuses continue to be safe places for students."

—Christian Trujano

In other news

• The Pleasanton Police Department arrested a 39-year-old Pleasanton man Sunday evening after he allegedly brandished a weapon and threatened to kill another person in their home.

According to a social media post by PPD, officers responded to a residence Sunday evening on the 6000 block of Alisal Street. Lt. Albert said the suspect made "threats towards another resident of the property during a verbal altercation."

Albert added, "Both involved parties reside on the same property which has several structures."

"It was reported to PPD at the time of the call that the suspect was armed with a firearm," Albert told the Weekly, adding that other residents of the property were evacuated until the suspect was taken into custody.

The suspect surrendered to police without incident, according to PPD's social media post, and he was subsequently booked at Santa Rita Jail on charges of brandishing a weapon and criminal threats.

PPD also stated that the incident was isolated and that there is "no ongoing threat to public safety".

—Christian Trujano

• The San Ramon Police Department is continuing its investigation into a midday robbery at City Center Bishop Ranch last month in which thousands of dollars worth of merchandise was stolen.

Police responded to a reported strong-arm robbery at Optical Illusions at approximately 1:17 p.m. Feb. 21 after four masked suspects entered the shop and began taking merchandise from the high-end optometrist's shop, leading to a physical altercation with the store's owner and an employee when they tried to stop the theft.

The thieves ultimately escaped with an estimated \$15,000 worth of merchandise. Three are still on the lam as of March 5, with one suspect — an 18-year-old Pittsburg man — who was taken into custody in San Mateo County on separate felony grand theft charges, according to SRPD officials.

SRPD's Organized Retail Theft Suppression Team is working with the Walnut Creek, Manteca and Daly City police departments along with other agencies in its efforts to identify the additional suspects.

—Jeanita Lyman

• Livermore police are investigating a shooting that occurred in the area of North Vasco Road and Dalton Avenue on Tuesday evening.

Police confirmed that one person was shot at around 5 p.m., transported to the hospital and expected to survive, and that there was no known threat to the public. No other details had been released as of press time Wednesday.

—Jeremy Walsh

• Investigating citizen complaints, keeping an eye on local government agencies, acting as watchdogs — grand juries perform a vital function, and there are currently openings on the 2025-26 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury.

Each year, judicial officers of the Superior Court nominate county residents to serve. The court is seeking a pool of at least 30 nominees, six from each Alameda County supervisorial district. From this pool, 19 jurors will be randomly selected, officials said.

While nominations are accepted year-round, the focus is currently on building a grand jury for the fiscal year starting July 1. Nominations must be submitted by April 15. Visit grandjury.acgov.org/join-us/.

—Bay City News Service

WE'RE PROUD TO BRING OUR READERS SOME OF THE BEST JOURNALISM IN THE STATE.

The annual **California Journalism Awards** competition, which celebrates excellence in reporting, design, photography and multimedia recognized our team with **7 awards** in the following categories:

1st - Coverage of Youth and Education

1st - Feature Story

2nd - In-Depth Reporting

2nd - Columns

3rd - Health Reporting

3rd - Profile Story

5th - Coverage of Local Government

Please help support the local journalism and the award-winning team that is driven by the desire to bring you fresh, original reporting.

We couldn't do it without you.

Pleasanton
Weekly

SUPPORT LOCAL
JOURNALISM



BECOME A
MEMBER



embarcadero media
foundation

www.PleasantonWeekly.com/join

Pleasanton Weekly

PUBLISHER

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

EDITORIAL

Editorial Director

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

Editor

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

Editor Emeritus

Jeb Bing

Staff Reporters

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

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

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

Contributors

Chuck Deckert, Tim Hunt, Nancy Lewis, Dennis Miller

ART & PRODUCTION

Design and Production Manager

Kristin Brown

Designers

Linda Atilano, Paul Llewellyn, Mary Watanabe, Doug Young

ADVERTISING

Account Executive

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

Real Estate Sales

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

BUSINESS

Business Associate

Lisa Oefelein, Ext. 1178

Administrative Associate

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

HOW TO REACH THE WEEKLY

Phone: (925) 600-0840

Fax: (925) 600-9559

Editorial email:

editor@PleasantonWeekly.com
calendar@PleasantonWeekly.com

Display Sales email:

sales@PleasantonWeekly.com

Classifieds Sales email:

ads@PleasantonWeekly.com

Circulation email:

circulation@PleasantonWeekly.com

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 member at PleasantonWeekly.com/become-a-member.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pleasanton Weekly, 5506 Sunol Blvd., Suite 203, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

© 2025 by Embarcadero Media Foundation. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is strictly prohibited.



LETTERS

Protect Department of Education and our public schools

The proposed changes to the U.S. Department of Education present a serious challenge to our community. Beyond budgetary concerns, we must consider the profound impact on the fundamental role of public education.

Our public schools serve as vital centers of community, fostering collaboration and shared understanding among children from diverse backgrounds. They are where future citizens learn to engage in informed discourse and where the seeds of innovation are sown.

Eliminating the Department of Education would trigger significant disruptions:

- Severe funding implications: Public schools would face substantial reductions in federal funding, including Title I and crucial support for special education programs. This would place considerable financial strain on state and local governments, potentially leading to increased taxes or reductions in other essential services.

- Diminished oversight and equity: The absence of federal oversight would weaken civil rights protections and create inconsistencies in educational standards. This could result in increased discrimination and unequal opportunities for students nationwide.

We have a responsibility to advocate for the preservation of the Department of Education and our public schools. This is an investment in our collective future, and we must urge our leaders to prioritize it.

—Jessica OBalle

Kaiser service reductions

The Tri-Valley's population is losing Kaiser services when there is not a Kaiser hospital closer than Walnut Creek or Fremont?

They have also stripped the short-lived but most welcome retina clinic from the Pleasanton facility, forcing patients again to travel either to Walnut Creek or Fremont. And retina patients who regularly receive treatment for macular degeneration are left to find someone to drive them great distances every six weeks or so, since they cannot drive following the procedure. Same with many outpatient procedures.

Kaiser builds facilities all around us, moves IT and other administrative offices to Pleasanton, yet fails to address the real needs of real people in the Tri-Valley.

What a shame.

—Linda Kelly

Prom is here: don't drink and drive

Activities come for juniors and seniors now. For instance, Foothill High

School in Pleasanton will have junior prom on March 22.

When 16 in 1992, a drunken driver hit me. I could not attend prom and many celebrations. Three hospitals and therapy in San Jose made up half of my teenage life.

I can walk OK, and it is a strain dealing with the injuries I received 30-plus years ago: my hearing is damaged, I cannot drive and speak clearly, etc.

For 19-plus years, I have been trying to bring drinking intelligence to all. Alcohol makes you impaired and people know this. It puzzles me why they, especially teenagers, decide to drive after drinking? Innocent lives have been injured or killed because of behavior like this.

Give any event a noteworthy memory: prevent yourself and others from driving after drinking. You just saved a life.

—Lori Martin

Danville skate park

I am a middle schooler who went to the town hall meeting and read the article on the skate park. When I went to the meeting, I saw mostly adults or high schoolers speaking about the skate park. I did not see any middle schoolers. At school, I have heard no one talk about wanting a skate park.

And this brings me to think that not many teenagers really want a skate park. No one at my school skateboards to school. We all bike. If we need bike jumps, we build them. I see no reason for a skate park. Instead the town should focus on letting us build bike jumps at the creek or have an area for bike jumps.

Thank you for reading this. I am a Boy Scout, and I am writing this also for a communication merit badge.

—Luca Damian

Ban 'steer tailing'

Unbeknownst to the general public, there are 70 California charro associations which annually sponsor some 800 Mexican-style rodeos ("charreadas") throughout the state, mostly April to October.

Charreadas feature nine scored events, one of which — "steer tailing" — is likely illegal, according to a 1996 opinion from the Legislative Counsel of California, citing CA Penal Code 597. "Steer tailing" is not a standard ranching practice anywhere in the U.S.

In this brutal event, a mounted cowboy ("charro") grabs a running steer by the tail, wraps the tail around his leg, then rides off at an angle, attempting to slam the hapless steer to the ground. Steers' tails are routinely stripped to the bone ("degloved"), broken, even torn off.

I worked on a 2010 case near Denver in which seven steers had their tails "degloved" in one afternoon; two others suffered a broken pelvis and leg, both requiring euthanasia.

PET OF THE WEEK



VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Play with Shadow

Just like Peter Pan's sneaky sidekick, Shadow is a playful girl full of curiosity and charm. She loves to explore, cuddle and stick right by your side — no sewing required! Shadow is happiest as the only shining star of your home, ready to bring adventure, affection and a touch of mischief to your life. If you're looking for a feline friend like Shadow, follow the second star to the right and visit Valley Humane Society to meet her today. Call 925-426-8656 or email info@valleyhumane.org to start the adoption process.

No veterinarian present for any of this.

"Steer tailing" was banned in the early 1990s by both Alameda and Contra Costa counties; Nebraska outlawed the event in 2006. Other jurisdictions should follow suit: city, county, state.

In the interim, local animal control agencies, humane societies and SPCAs should be monitoring these events, and citing those responsible. Lawsuits are in order to help curtail this blatant abuse. Even Cesar Chavez was an outspoken critic.

—Eric Mills, coordinator, Action for Animals

Trump's fantastic speech

Last week President Donald Trump gave the best speech that America has heard since Reagan or JFK! He shared his plans for economic

growth, border security, peace for Ukraine, and that he wants to lower taxes for all Americans, especially the working middle class. With the help of the DOGE team, we will continue to stop the waste, fraud and abuse.

Survey polls by CBS News and CNN showed an approval rating of President Trump's speech was 76%.

President Trump introduced many special guests and during the introductions, the Republicans stood and applauded, and all of America who watched were brought to tears, but all of the Democrats in the House sat on their hands in a deplorable display of disrespect and indecency.

Who in their right mind would not acknowledge these human accomplishments and sacrifices? The foolish and out-of-touch Dems in Congress that's who.

—David Ott

We're looking for a few interns

We are seeking local high school or college students with an appetite for news and an interest in learning about print and digital media for internship opportunities. The interns will research stories, do interviews and help with fact checking and rewrites for the award-winning Pleasanton Weekly, LivermoreVine.com and DanvilleSanRamon.com. They will also be introduced to the other aspects of publishing, including advertising and production.

During the internship period, the intern will be an integral part of the team, participating fully in the process of gathering and presenting news.

Candidates must be responsible, have good writing skills, be available 10 to 12 hours a week and have reliable internet access. Internships require an academic sponsor. Applicants should send a resume, a cover letter explaining your interest and links to at least three examples of journalistic work to editor Cierra Bailey at cbailey@embarcaderomedia.org by 11:59 p.m. April 21.



Keeping the heart of Livermore healthy

Residents, business owners, officials reflect on how far downtown has come and the direction it's headed

By JUDE STRZEMP

On a sunny Friday afternoon, groups of people chat at wily tables outside Panama Bay Coffee in downtown Livermore.

Across the road, longstanding gastropub First Street Alehouse appears to be another popular destination as customers dine in its outdoor seating area.

Past the hustle and bustle of people on First Street is a gravel lot serving as a makeshift parking area while the new L Street garage is built from the ground up.

Despite the close proximity, nearby construction seems not to affect the peace of a late-afternoon visit to downtown.

Instead, business owners and leadership of local organizations like Visit Tri-Valley commend the development as a positive sign for downtown Livermore.

A different story emerges west of the intersection of First Street and South L Street, where foot traffic seems to peter out. Not just visible to a visitor's eye, business owners at longtime favorites like Donut Wheel and Vine Cinema & Alehouse have observed a lack of passersby. Further marking the silence on that side of First Street is unoccupied retail space under a new luxury apartment complex, still shiny and new.

Despite the split between lively and sleepy, even a single criticism of the downtown was a needle in a haystack among patrons and business owners.

"For me, everything comes down to quality of life," Livermore Mayor John Marchand told Livermore Vine. "Our downtown is the heart of our community — a place where people come together ... and our downtown stands as a model for the region."

While the main draw of downtown is First Street, the downtown is actually bordered at its north by the railroad tracks — except for a section of blocks that pop out onto Chestnut Street — south at approximately Fourth Street, west by Murrieta Boulevard and east by approximately Old First Street.

Strung throughout downtown are restaurants, bars, cafes, markets, retail shops, two movie theaters, the Bankhead Theater, salons, fitness centers, art studios and a bowling alley as well as historical sites and homes.

But the walkability and appeal of the area hasn't always been as it is today.

In 2004, then-city council adopted the Downtown Specific Plan



The Pleasanton Weekly, Livermore Vine and DanvilleSanRamon.com are embarking on a cover story series in 2025 examining the downtowns throughout the Tri-Valley. Our project debuts this week with reporter Jude Strzemp's feature on downtown Livermore.

dictating land-use policies and development standards for the heart of Livermore, following years of discussion. The plan set out to make downtown a pedestrian-friendly area with commerce and entertainment alongside offices and housing.

Taking Highway 84 off current-day First Street was a monumental step of the plan, city spokesperson Stephanie Egidio said, referring to a time when First Street was also the state highway running through downtown and creating cut-through commute traffic.

"Even for most residents, the downtown was a place to pass through, not a destination," according to the city's website. Its planning, the city addressed the community's preference to push commute traffic back to the freeway, which resulted in changes to First Street that aimed to significantly slow down traffic and reclaim downtown as an active and pedestrian-friendly destination for residents and visitors.

'Please excuse our dust'

In recent years, the downtown area has grown to include several new amenities including the I Street Parking Garage, Stockmen's Park, Legacy at Livermore Apartments and Livermorium Plaza.

Livermore has the best downtown in the Tri-Valley, resident Morgan Finley King proudly told Livermore Vine.

"Everything we've gained is great," King added. "It's the most pedestrian-friendly of the downtowns."

For Livermore resident Christi Graham, the draws of downtown are its restaurants, book store, farmers market and the Lizzie Oliver Fountain at the intersection of First Street and South Livermore Avenue.



JUDE STRZEMP

Afternoon visitors to downtown Livermore dine at longtime staple First Street Alehouse.

The downtown is a comfortable place to visit, Graham said, sitting at the fountain with her young daughter. "I did not not grow up in a town that had a downtown, I grew up in Fremont, so it's really nice to have a place to just walk around," she added.

Visible from the fountain in one direction, renovations to Flagpole Plaza were underway and in the other, an expansion to Blacksmith Square and construction of L Street Parking Garage.

The Flagpole Plaza, located at the intersection of South Livermore Avenue and First Street, is expected to reopen at the end of summer. The remodel includes new stamped concrete walkways and landscaping, upgraded lighting, installation of advanced security cameras and improved accessibility.

With these renovations, the city intends on restoring the public gathering space to vibrancy, Egidio said.

Just a block away at Blacksmith Square, developer Red Bear Property

Management, Inc. — founded by Michael and Joe Madden, the sons of the late football and entertainment legend and businessman John Madden — is constructing three new buildings with over 13,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space.

Two of the buildings are expected for completion in July and the third is expected in winter, according to project manager Eric "Otis" Nostrand. Meanwhile, the current shops at Blacksmith Square are fully operational including Swirl On the Square, Tap 25 and Sweet Hope Naturals.

The L Street Parking Garage is expected to open to the public this fall, according to city officials. The garage will add 452 parking spaces to the downtown, including spots for ADA, electric vehicles and bicycles. An additional 40 spaces will be available as surface parking next to the garage.

The new garage is set to join the Livermore Valley Center parking structure and recently completed I Street Parking Garage at 175 North I St., which opened in summer 2022.

Parking is consistently a top concern for Livermore residents, based on surveys by Livermore Downtown Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit that supports the economic health and vitality of the city's downtown, said Adam Feidy, general manager of First Street Alehouse and LDI treasurer.

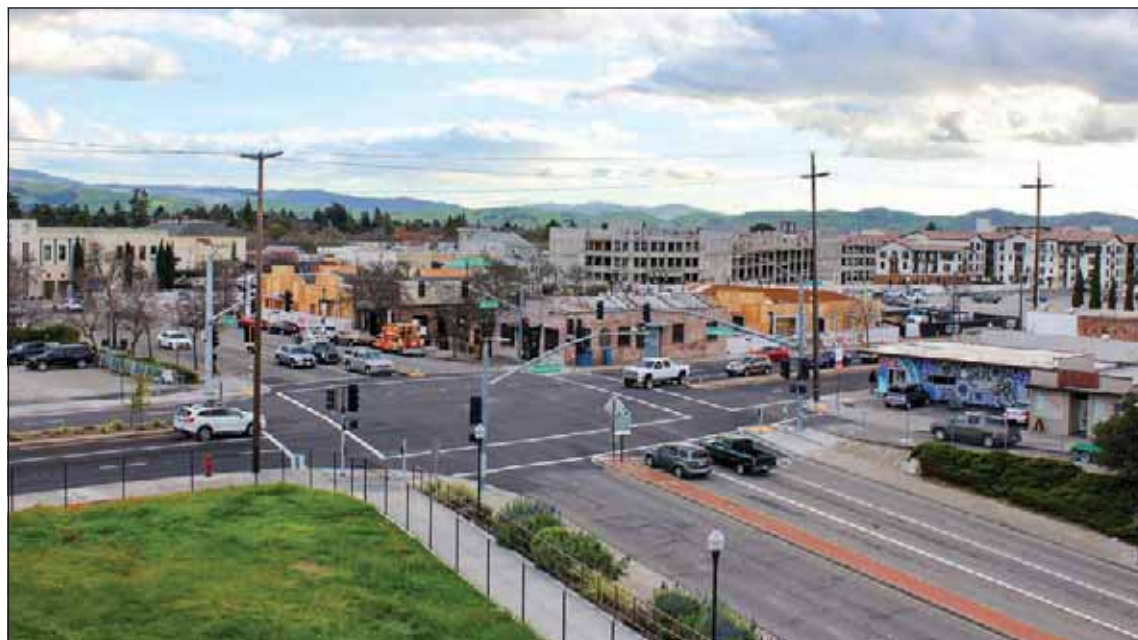
To Livermore Valley Arts CEO Chris Carter, all of the ongoing construction signals a healthy downtown.



Chris Carter

"I like seeing construction," Carter told Livermore Vine. "People are investing in this area really heavily because they believe in the future of it, and I think that's a positive sign."

Patrons don't seem to mind the construction either as it hasn't slowed business for the Bankhead



JUDE STRZEMP

The Blacksmith Square expansion and the future L Street Parking Garage stand out as upcoming features of downtown Livermore.



JUDE STRZEMP

Panama Bay Coffee Co. manager Samuel Palmer and a customer catch up on recent happenings.

Theater, according to Carter.

“We’re probably the healthiest we’ve ever been, historically,” Carter said. “We’re still looking to grow and we’re continuing to expand what we’re able to do and add more programs as we can.”

In a mutual relationship with the downtown, the Bankhead Theater is one of the key elements to Livermore tourism, Carter explained.

Every year the performing arts theater operated by LVA brings 80,000 to 90,000 people to the downtown area, Carter said. These visitors uplift the economic vitality of the city.

Feidy said business at First Street Alehouse has also continued to do well despite construction, although it doesn’t come without some drawbacks. “There are general growing pains with construction. There’s noise disruption, dust,” he said.

Key players in neighboring communities have praised Livermore downtown’s progress.

For Michael Madden, who is also a former Pleasanton Downtown Association president, the L Street garage marks a positive investment by Livermore in its downtown.

“When I started doing business

down there, I was on the PDA board and my PDA board members laughed at me,” Madden said of his experience decades ago during a Pleasanton City Council meeting in January. “Now you go down there - they’ve got parks, they’ve got fountains, they’ve got people, they’ve got infrastructure.”

At that same Pleasanton meeting, Bruce Torquemada — owner of 11 buildings in downtown Pleasanton — went as far to say Livermore is a more lively place than the center of his hometown.

“It’s better. It’s easier. It’s more vibrant,” Torquemada said of doing business in Livermore compared to Pleasanton. “My own kids go to Livermore before they go to Pleasanton to do things.”

Just like his children, the rest of the public seems to have gravitated toward Livermore and San Ramon as opposed to Pleasanton over the past 25 years, Torquemada said.

In addition to its efforts over the years to become pedestrian-friendly, the Livermore downtown is also set to become more accessible by public transportation with the forthcoming addition of a station for Valley Link, a 42-mile commuter light-rail

project planned to extend from the Central Valley to Tri-Valley.

“With the addition of new housing, ongoing construction and the upcoming Valley Link connection at Isabel Station, the city is making bold, forward-thinking investments in its future,” Visit Tri-Valley President and CEO Tracy Farhad said.

Projects on the horizon

Throughout downtown, boards with project renderings promise passersby the future of downtown Livermore. On view are renderings of a future Downtown Boutique Hotel, SPARC TheaterLab, Quest Science Center and a 130-unit affordable housing project set to be developed by Eden Housing.

The city expects construction to start on the hotel in 2026, though there were no timelines to share for Quest or SPARC.

A particular sticking point for many is the Eden Housing project, planned for the southeast corner of Railroad Avenue and L Street and intended to provide housing to low-income families and the local workforce. Also contemplated in the project is construction of and improvements to Veterans Park.

The housing project received approval from the Livermore City Council in May 2021, but work has yet to begin due to a slew of legal challenges. Oppositional groups including Save Livermore Downtown and Move Eden Housing — which have many of the same core members — suggest relocating the project from downtown Livermore.

Though longtime supporters of the development, like LDI, are ready for the project to begin, according to Jeremy Troupe-Masi, a member of the LDI Board of Directors and owner of JTM In The Kitchen.



JUDE STRZEMP

Opening in the 1960s, business at the Donut Wheel has slowed in recent years.

He also extended his support on a personal level. “Having adequate housing supply is a necessary infrastructure for hospitality to survive,” Troupe-Masi said. “Otherwise, those people can’t afford to live here.”

A slump on the west side of First Street

Outside the core of downtown, where couples walk the streets and families dine outside restaurants, First Street grows quiet.

The breaking point appears at the intersection of First and South L streets.

Heading west, ground-level windows of the Legacy at Livermore are tacked with signage stating “Retail Space Available”. Across the street, a “For Lease” board sits in a window.

The lack of foot traffic is apparent to Savanna Taing, co-owner of Donut Wheel, located at the corner of First and South L.

Taing said a lot of focus is placed on the area from South L Street to the Livermore 13 Cinema at the intersection of First and Maple streets.

It seems that people living nearby don’t dine out very much.

“I do wish there were more locals coming to support local businesses,” Taing added.

Also, amid the influx of restaurants and dessert businesses downtown in recent decades, Donut Wheel — which opened in the 1960s — has seen a slowing of business, Taing said.

Kenny Way, owner of the Vine Cinema & Alehouse, has also noticed a lack of foot traffic on the far west side of First Street but said he wouldn’t expect additional passersby to mean more business for the theater.

“Almost all of our patrons know they are coming to a movie in advance, so it is never a spur of the moment decision that having high foot traffic would benefit,” Way said of the Vine Cinema at the western side of First Street.

Eastward, Troupe-Masi noted a similar lack of foot traffic.

Troupe-Masi said, on Old First Street, “We have wonderful businesses over there that suffer that same problem.”

See **LIVERMORE** on Page 14



Jeremy Troupe-Masi



JUDE STRZEMP

The Blacksmith Square expansion is expected to be completed this winter. Meanwhile, stores are open at the square.



COURTESY ALYSSA CAMUNEZ

Alyssa Camunez, owner of Good Chance Boutique on First Street, closed her first shop at Blacksmith Square because of a lack of foot traffic.



JUDE STRZEMP

At the intersection of First Street and South O Street, Vine Cinema & Alehouse owner Kenny Way has observed a lack of passersby in the area.



JUDE STRZEMP

The Bankhead Theater has seen record sales over the past two years. Its presence downtown attracts tens of thousands of people to the area annually.

LIVERMORE

Continued from Page 13

However, John's Char-Burger, longtime staple on Old First Street, appeared exceptionally busy as customers flowed in and out of the restaurant on a Thursday evening.

Businesses come and go

Not only is the foot traffic disparate across First Street, but downtown Livermore saw a rise in business turnover last fiscal year, according to data recently released by LDI.

According to the LDI 2023-24 annual report, 16 businesses closed and the same number opened in the downtown area through the fiscal year, a striking rate of more than one closure per month.

Among those to shutter were Buffalo Wild Wings in July 2023, Murphy's Paw and Beer Baron in August 2023, Pennyweight Craft Brewing in September 2023 and Bay Area BB Islands in January 2024 as well as Miel de Agave Azul, Fat Chance Food Hall and Roya Afghan Cuisine in March 2024.

Of the shutdowns during the 2023-24 fiscal year, only two were located beyond the bounds of the two cinemas on First Street, according to the report.

Some businesses come and go rather quickly, said Sherri Souza, president and CEO of the Livermore

Valley Chamber of Commerce — a 501(c)6 which offers education, marketing tools and networking opportunities to businesses in the city.

"Maybe that happens, not because we don't have economic vitality in the downtown area, but maybe some of these businesses haven't considered the cost of doing business," Souza told Livermore Vine.

She added, "I'm not quite sure, I can't point my finger and pinpoint why some of these businesses come and go so fast in the downtown area. The only thing that I can think of is that maybe they weren't well prepared enough or didn't have previous experience to sustain themselves for a longer amount of time."

Transitions at Livermore Downtown Inc.

In addition to the physical changes to Livermore, LDI is also undergoing a transition in leadership with a new executive director set to take the reins this month following the departure of Ruby Lopez-Villarreal.

Troupe-Masi said the vision for LDI still requires a unified conversation, set for the coming weeks, including incoming Executive Director Kara Klotchman.

"We know we were due for the next version of whatever this organization is to become," Troupe Masi said.

Through the transition, one of the top priorities for LDI is addressing

business turn-over and acclimating the eastern and western sides of downtown into the general buzz of downtown, Troupe-Masi said.

While the lighter foot traffic westward of South L Street and along Old First Street is on LDI's radar, Troupe-Masi said, revitalization from cinema to cinema and acclimation of Old First Street is stalled amid other construction downtown.

"Until some of the projects in the heart of downtown Livermore are completed, it's a tremendous challenge relative to operational bandwidth to see the rest of the picture come to fruition as well," Troupe-Masi said.

West of South L Street along First has experienced stunted growth, in part because of oppositional groups within Livermore, Troupe-Masi said.

Despite the challenges LDI faces with downtown, business owners have complimented the organization's work.

"I feel nothing but supported by the city and LDI," said Alyssa Camunez, owner of Good Chance Boutique on First Street.

Through the closure of her first retail store at Blacksmith Square called Vault California summer 2022 due to low foot traffic, her customers followed her to Good Chance Boutique, she said.

"The people who live in this town are just so supportive of small business and doing what it takes to keep us here," Camunez said. "The customers and community is a big reason why I do this."

LDI focuses on providing the same level of support to all of the downtown business community.

"Our stakeholders, our members, our partners are all equal in the benefits that they receive specifically from LDI as an organization," Troupe-Masi explained.

As for business owners who are non-English language speakers, LDI sees a need for improving contact with these groups.

"The consistency in giving access to those who speak languages outside of English is definitely where there would be room to grow, so that they

always know who, when and where to be or talk to," Troupe-Masi said.

The language barrier, as well as financial and time investment challenges are among the reasons the Donut Wheel is not currently part of LDI.

Regarding her parents' awareness of LDI, Taing said, "They don't know what it's for, I don't think, because they don't really speak English."

Nevertheless, Taing complimented the LDI team and their efforts downtown.

As for the future of LDI and its plans for supporting downtown businesses, Klotchman is set to take the helm next Monday.

"You're always kind of sad to see someone that you've been working with go," Feidy said of Lopez-Villarreal's departure. "But I'm really excited for who we have coming on. I'm excited about the future of the organization," he added.

Klotchman previously worked with LDI from 2012 to 2018 and currently serves as executive director of the Downtown Martinez & Co. Main Street Program, where she has led transformative initiatives that strengthened local businesses and revitalized downtown spaces.

"It's really hard knowing what I'm walking into, without having started, and where my direction is going to go," Klotchman told Livermore Vine. "I'm sure I'll be pulled in multiple different directions, but that's

something that I'm very used to — it's my job here in Martinez."

During the first few weeks to months of her leadership, she intends to contact the business owners of downtown Livermore to gauge their thoughts on construction projects, general feelings about downtown, foot traffic as well as their thoughts on LDI and the services offered.

Otherwise, Klotchman said she is a proponent of recruiting businesses to fill building vacancies as well as marketing the downtown and the city at-large as a travel destination. She said LDI may even add an event or two to the calendar or add segments of events that are already successful.

As for potential challenges, she said funding is on her radar. In an attempt to not only sustain the non-profit, but to grow it, she intends on soliciting new grant funding and sponsorships.

Ultimately, the collective sentiment surrounding downtown Livermore is excitement and enthusiasm for what's to come.

"In the long-term, there's a lot of upside in Livermore and the downtown," Carter said. "I feel like we're just beginning and there's a lot of great potential for developing an incredibly vibrant community, especially in regards to the arts and culturally — there's a lot we have to offer." ■



COURTESY CITY OF LIVERMORE

Currently stalled amid legal challenges, a 130-unit affordable housing project is proposed to be developed by Eden Housing at the southeast corner of Railroad Avenue and L Street.



COURTESY CITY OF LIVERMORE

The L Street Parking Garage is expected to be finished this fall.



Going green for St. Patrick's Day weekend

Parade, pancake breakfast, festival and fun run in Dublin; brew crawl set in downtown Pleasanton

COURTESY CITY OF DUBLIN
Dublin's St. Patrick's Day Festival runs this Saturday and Sunday.

BY CHRISTIAN TRUJANO

The Tri-Valley is going green for St. Patrick's Day as local organizations throughout the region get set to host a number of events — mostly in Dublin — for residents to showcase their Celtic pride.

Observed every March 17, St. Patrick's Day is a cultural and religious day that pays tribute and honors the death of the patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick.

Danville was set to get the fun started locally with Irish-themed crafts and activities for kids 2 to 9 years old this Thursday afternoon at the Danville Community Center.

But with a name like Dublin, this Tri-Valley city is going all out for the holiday weekend — just like it does every year — with its 41st annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

"Joy, culture, and tradition will be on full display at the city of Dublin's 41st St. Patrick's Day Celebration," city officials stated in a pre-event press release.

The weekend of festivities will kick off with the Dublin Historical Society, a nonprofit organization that supports the heritage and history of the city, hosting its fourth annual Shamrock Gala at Shannon Community Center in Dublin on Friday (March 14) from 6-10 p.m. The adult-only event will feature dinner, music, dancing and a raffle. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at the historical society's website.

The next day, Tri-Valley residents will be able to start their weekend off right — with green pancakes. Alameda County firefighters will be serving stacks of hot, green pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee during the annual Alameda County Firefighter's Pancake Breakfast at Fire Station No. 16 from 7-10 a.m. Saturday (March 15). The fire station is located at 7494 Donohue Drive in Dublin.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 and according to the city of Dublin, all of the proceeds benefit the Alameda County Firefighters Association-Local 55 Charity Fund, which supports local nonprofit and community-based organizations.

After some green breakfast, people can head over to Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road to watch the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, which is hosted by the Rotary Club of Dublin. The procession, which starts at 9:30 a.m., will continue east on Dublin Boulevard, north on Village Parkway, and west on Amador Valley Boulevard before ending near the Dublin Senior Center.

"Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route," according to the Dublin press release. "The parade will feature more than 80 entries including festive marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, classic cars, dance troupes, equestrians, local dignitaries, and more."

One of the organizations that will participate in the parade will be the Dublin Leprechauns, the Tri-Valley's professional baseball club, according to a statement by Guy Houston, director of baseball operations for the local team.

"Calling all supporters of the Leprechauns to help make it a fun time and help promote the team," Houston, a former mayor of Dublin, said in the statement. "We will have a large bed truck with music and of course our famous mascot will be there. There will be coffee and doughnuts and perhaps some fixins for Irish Coffees as well to keep warm."

Following the parade will be Dublin's 41st St. Patrick's Day Festival, which takes place over the course of Saturday and Sunday (March 15-16). The two-day festival will be located at the Dublin Civic Center and will feature authentic Irish food and beverages, music and dance, Irish Marketplace, Irish Tea Cottage; arts and crafts vendors, and a carnival.

Some of the music acts will be performing everything from high-energy Celtic rock music to traditional Irish pub music and iconic bagpipes, according to the city.

"The Irish Dance Stage showcases the McGrath Irish Dancers on Saturday and the McBride School of Irish Dance on Sunday," the city stated in its press release. "Bagpipers will perform throughout the festival grounds."

The festival will start at 10 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. on both days — admission will also be free.

And if you don't feel like driving to the festival, you're in luck because the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority announced Monday that Wheels will provide free bus services to the festival on its 30R Rapid bus.

The 30R route connects the Livermore Transit Center, BART, and the Dublin Civic Center grounds.

The city is also hosting its annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk on Sunday. The race, which residents can register for online, will begin at 8:30 a.m. along Dublin Boulevard near the Civic Center — contestants will finish at the festival.

"Racers participating in this annual event include serious athletes, parents pushing strollers, and visitors and residents dressed in green from head to toe," the city stated. "The top three finishers in each division will win a medallion and gift certificate from race sponsor Sports Basement."

But Dublin isn't the only surrounding city celebrating Celtic and Irish roots.

On Saturday evening, downtown Pleasanton will be hosting its 12th annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl where Tri-Valley residents — who are of drinking age — will help turn Main Street green.

The annual event, organized by the Pleasanton Downtown Association, pairs up downtown businesses with

breweries so residents can sample over 15 craft beers while enjoying "the Luck of the Irish festivities along the way". The crawl will last from 5-8 p.m.

Event guests are encouraged to wear green and other St. Patrick's Day gear as they enjoy live music, a car show, food trucks, photo booths and other entertainment, according to the event description. The starting location, which is also where folks can redeem their tickets for the crawl, will be at the Museum on Main.

Residents can also buy tickets at the museum for \$65, if the event isn't sold out by then.

Over in Livermore, residents will be able to pay homage to their Irish roots during the St. Patrick's Day Party at McGrail Vineyards. The event, which will last from noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, will feature live music, a food truck, local vendors and, of course, wine.

"Enjoy walk-up tastings of our Celtic Series Red Blend wines and live music," according to the event description. "Marty's Joint Food Truck will be on site serving up delicious food for purchase including some St. Patrick's Day menu specials! McGrail wines will be available for purchase by the glass and bottle."

Open seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis — tickets cost \$25 for guests and \$15 for those who are a member of the vineyard's club. ■

‘Hadestown: Teen Edition’, Elizabeth Smart appearance bookend busy Bankhead bill for rest of March

Téada, Yamato drummers, Daniel Ho Quintet in concert — Beatles, Ronstadt tribute shows too

By JEREMY WALSH

Spring won't officially be here until next week, but the Bankhead Theater bill is already in full bloom for the second half of March, with an eclectic slate of 15 shows and special events on its schedule.

Starting things off will be CYT Tri-Valley this Friday through Sunday presenting “Hadestown: Teen Edition” — the youth theater troupe’s adaptation of the Tony Award-winning musical by Anais Mitchell.

“With haunting melodies and bold, theatrical storytelling, ‘Hadestown’ reimagines the ancient Greek myths of Orpheus, Eurydice, Hades and Persephone with a unique blend of modern folk and jazz music,” CYT Tri-Valley officials said, adding that their version has been “gently modified for performance by teen actors, making it a family-friendly show while preserving the heart and beauty of the original.”

The show stars local actors aged 13 to 18 years old, and in a first for the Bankhead resident company, is sung entirely through. It also marks the debut of CYT Tri-Valley’s NextStage program, “a conservatory-like musical theater initiative for advanced teen performers.”

“We are excited to launch NextStage with such an incredible and meaningful production,” director Kristin “KW” Werder said. “‘Hadestown’ is a show that demands passion, creativity, and commitment, and our teen



COURTESY LVA

Elizabeth Smart will appear as part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series on March 30.

performers have risen to the challenge. With the help of our skilled vocal director and choreographers, we’re bringing this powerful story to life in a way that will leave audiences amazed!”

“Hadestown: Teen Edition” has two shows each on Friday and Saturday (March 14-15) and a matinee on Sunday (March 16).

Another Bankhead resident company, Del Valle Fine Arts, also has a performance later this month, presenting the “Curtis on Tour” guitar quartet next Saturday night (March 22).

Music will fill their air throughout the latter part of March in the downtown Livermore venue.

Ireland’s own Téada will open a run of four consecutive international shows for the Bankhead next, playing



COURTESY LVA

Daniel Ho and his quintet will play the Bankhead on March 29.

aply on the night of St. Patrick’s Day on Monday.

Japanese Taiko drumming group Yamato follows with performances next Wednesday and Thursday (March 19-20)

Then the hits of the “British Invasion” come next Friday (March 21) with Come Together: The Beatles Concert Experience.

After the DVFA concert, next weekend closes with Ronstadt Revue featuring Gesenia — joined by special guest John Beland on guitar — playing the songbook of Linda Ronstadt next Sunday afternoon (March 23).

The Daniel Ho Quintet, led by the namesake Grammy Award-winning ukulele artist, on March 29 represents the final concert of the month for the Bankhead. Although, music will certainly be front and center at the



DAMIEN STENSON / COURTESY LVA

Irish band Téada is performing in Livermore on St. Patrick’s Day 2025.

iLuminate performance on March 28, which the promoters describe as “a fantastic fusion of cutting-edge technology and dance.”

The Bankhead will also celebrate Women’s History Month by hosting the “Women Who Crush It” wine-tasting event organized by the Women’s Wine Collective of Livermore Valley on the evening of March 26.

Then, one of the biggest names of the season will be on the Bankhead stage on March 30 when child abduction survivor, nonprofit founder and advocate Elizabeth Smart appears as part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series.

“Smart’s abduction and recovery continue to motivate parents, law enforcement and leaders worldwide to focus on children’s safety,” Bankhead

reps said. “She emphasizes vigilance by everyday people and the belief that hope always exists to find every missing child. Smart’s example is a daily demonstration that there really is life after a tragic event.”

And as April arrives, the fast pace continues with the Bankhead set for a rare run of events on six days in a row: Rhythm India: Bollywood and Beyond on April 2, a fraud prevention seminar on April 3, Silkroad Ensemble: Uplifted Voices on April 4, The Neil Diamond Concert Experience tribute show on April 5 and DLUX Puppets’ “Neverland” performances on April 6-7 — all leading into the 2025-26 season announcement party on April 9.

For tickets and more information about the early spring shows at the Bankhead, go to livermorearts.org. ■

Valley Concert Chorale debuting new artistic director in upcoming shows

Castro centers introductory concerts on Beethoven’s ‘Mass in C Major’, Hagenberg’s ‘Songs from Silence’

By JEREMY WALSH

The Tri-Valley’s community chorus has a new voice at the helm, with Joseph Castro set to make his public debut as artistic director of Valley Concert Chorale leading a pair of performances at local churches this weekend.

Castro, who succeeded John Emory Bush upon his retirement last season after 26 years, is a Bay Area native who has performed around the world, previously conducted and coached with Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley and serves as director of Choral Activities at West High School in Tracy. For his introductory concerts conducting VCC, Castro has chosen as centerpieces Ludwig von Beethoven’s “Mass in C Major” and Elaine Hagenberg’s “Songs from Silence.”

“I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to join such a vibrant group of choral artists,” Castro said in a recent press release. “VCC has

a rich history and tradition in the choral arts, so naturally I was drawn to composers from past and present who embody similar qualities I have heard in the sound from the Chorale.”

“Beethoven is a natural embodiment of the human spirit; to persevere and reach toward our ideals despite what life may throw our way,” he added. “I found common ground between the spirit of Beethoven and our choristers and found the perfect marriage of ideals to bring together a performance that is more than a concert — it is an artistic experience of how the human spirit can navigate immense adversity to inspire hope.”

Castro’s selections are emblematic “of his vision for the future of the Chorale,” according to VCC Board President Sarah Allendorf.

“We are really enjoying the challenge of learning and perfecting this music,” Allendorf added, “and these concerts are sure to break new

ground for the chorale. Join us as we embark on a new level of artistic expression and storytelling with our new artistic director Joseph Castro.”

The creative expression and emotions evoked from silence is a theme among the music of the concert.

“Silence may have been a reality for Beethoven near the later portion of his life, and certainly was beginning to take hold around 1807 when he composed the ‘Mass,’” Castro said. “It would not be many years later when silence would become his most hated companion. I chose the Jake Runestad ‘A Silence Haunts Me’ (2019) which is based on a letter Beethoven wrote to his family regarding his settling deafness. It appropriately compliments Beethoven’s ‘Mass in C.’”

The companion pieces “Song of My Heart” and “Stir the Embers” that make up Hagenberg’s “Songs from Silence” join Joshua Shank’s “Musica animam tangens” in also



COURTESY VCC

Joseph Castro is set to make his debut as artistic director of Valley Concert Chorale in performances this weekend in the Tri-Valley.

being featured in the upcoming VCC program.

The concerts are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday (March 15) at First Presbyterian Church on Fifth Street in Livermore and 4 p.m. Sunday (March 16) at Trinity

Lutheran Church on Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$10 for college students with valid ID; youth through high school are free. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org or call 925-866-4003. ■



PLEASANTON PREPS

By DENNIS MILLER

What a season for Amador Valley girls' soccer

Midyear turnaround propelled Dons all the way to CIF NorCal semifinals

If there was one team I was secretly pulling a little extra hard for, it was the Amador Valley girls' soccer team in the postseason.

I had a lot of those girls as students at Harvest Park Middle School, and I felt they survived a midseason struggle to rebound and make a championship charge at the end of the season.

It was a great story for a great group of girls.

After standing at 5-3 through the first eight games, the Dons put together an eight-game win streak that took them to the North Coast Section final. It was a game the Dons had earned the right to host, but saw it moved to Monte Vista in Danville because of a conflict with a track event at Amador on a Saturday.

The Dons ended up dropping the game to Monte Vista 1-0, but at 13-4 overall, it was an easy choice for the

Dons to get a CIF State Northern California berth, as they were seeded No. 6.

In the first round they went up to Rocklin and shocked the No. 3 seeded team 2-1 to advance to the semifinals of the eight-team field.

From there they went to No. 2 seed Saint Francis in Mountain View. The Dons battled throughout but dropped to a 2-0 final to see their season come to an end.

The Dons finished 14-5 overall — pretty good stuff for being 5-3 at one point.

Foothill boys' volleyball

It was thrilling action for the Falcons last week as they got a pair of five-set wins.

First up was Mission San Jose, and the Falcons got a 23-25, 25-20, 27-25, 15-25, 15-11 victory. Highlights came from Josh Salonga (25 assists,

12 kills, 12 digs), Dean Caudill (16 kills, 13 digs) and Cameron Hitchan (12 kills, 1 block).

The match was a bit of redemption for the Falcons as last year MSJ was one of only two teams to beat them in a five-set match.

Next up was Castro Valley, and Foothill pulled out the 25-18, 23-25, 25-21, 27-29, 15-8 win in a match between the two NCS Division I finalists from last year.

Salonga, Caudill and Hitchan all played great again, along with big nights from Jeremy Sun (18 digs, 13 kills), Thomas Paduraru (8 kills, 3 blocks) and Grey Garofalo (19 assists, 4 digs).

Out with winter, in with spring!

As the final lights are about to go out on the winter sports season over the next couple weeks, the



COURTESY AMADOR GIRLS' SOCCER

The Amador Valley girls' soccer team had a great late-season run before falling in the second round of the CIF State Northern California D-I playoffs.

glaring chaos that is the spring season is about to hit full stride.

And that means it's time to start sending in those results each week.

It's why I hammer you over your head with pleas to turn in results: So, we can get these kids some credit in print! Help me be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

In the time it takes to write a letter, you could have turned in some results and got the kids the credit they deserve.

Last spring we had the best season I have seen, as a number of sports had results turned in regularly. Foothill volleyball coach Dusty Collins has been as good as

it gets turning the Falcons volleyball stats.

So here is the official shoutout for help. I am just one person and there are loads of spring sports!

Here is my contact information again (acesmag@aol.com) so you can email me — Sunday by noon of each week is the deadline for the previous week's sports.

You don't have to wait until Sunday as you can send info in during the week, and I will save it. If you are willing to help this year, contact me and I will help you set up the easiest plan for the season.

Help me get our athletes the coverage they deserve! ■

Rockwell won't return as Emerald basketball coach

Parents demand transparency in light of mixed messaging from school, district

By JUDE STRZEMP

Jason Rockwell will not be reinstated as head coach of junior varsity boys' basketball at Emerald High School for unspecified reasons, sparking concern among his supporters in the community.

He remains in his other role as special education teacher at Emerald, according to Dublin Unified School District spokesperson Chip Dehnert.

"I am choosing to stay away from all the noise as it has been a lot to deal with," Rockwell told the Weekly. "All I can say is I appreciate all the love and support the community is showing me and my family."

The abrupt and vague nature of the decision is reminiscent of former principal Francis Rojas' sudden resignation in October 2024.

Rockwell's uncertain coaching future rose to public attention at the Feb. 25 DUSD board meeting, where student-athletes and families vouched for the coach's character and requested transparency regarding his unexplained, 10-day leave of absence spurred on by undisclosed allegations as well as his status as leader of the Aerouants.

Since then, students and parents proceeded to rally behind Rockwell



CHUCK DECKERT

The Emerald High School basketball program will have a new voice next season as the district has informed Jason Rockwell he won't be back as coach.

and his post at Emerald, including a failed attempt by parents to meet with EHS principal Lenni Velez to discuss transparency and accountability in the boys' basketball program.

Nevertheless, Velez reassured families in an email that the hiring process for a new coach would be "fair and transparent".

The resulting mismatch of information from Emerald and the district has sowed doubt, according to Navpreet Kaur, parent of a student-athlete and organizer of the

Feb. 25 meeting turnout.

"We want one statement that is accurate, but the problem is that we don't trust any of them now," Kaur said. "We're nervous if he's even going to be given a fair shot or if this is all just lip-service."

Prior to the varsity coaching position opening online, two parents of student-athletes under Rockwell — including Kaur — sent a letter to Velez on March 3 seeking a meeting, a thorough review of the basketball program, a formal statement

explaining any decisions made regarding the coaching staff and the future direction of the basketball program and involvement of the wellness coordinator at EHS to address the toll placed on student-athletes.

"We want to assure you that any decisions regarding coaching positions are made with careful consideration and in the best interest of our student-athletes," Velez responded. "We will be posting the coaching position soon, following a fair and transparent hiring process."

Upon hearing that Rockwell would not return as head coach in a public statement from the district, parents wrote to the principal March 5, "This suggests that a decision has been made before the hiring process has even begun, which understandably raises concerns about transparency and fairness."

They added, "The inconsistency between the messaging from DUSD and EHS is creating confusion, distress, and frustration within the community, which directly impacts the well-being of our student-athletes and their families."

The previously requested meeting was declined, after Velez said it was unnecessary given previous

communication. "However, I remain committed to ensuring transparency and thoughtful decision-making in the best interest of our student-athletes," Velez wrote.

On March 6, DUSD posted an open position for head coach of varsity boys basketball for winter 2026 — which will be the first year with a varsity team for the brand-new school that only has freshmen and sophomores in 2024-25. It is unclear what is happening with recruitment for a new JV coach for next season.

"Mr. Rockwell was informed (last week) that he would not be the Emerald basketball coach moving forward. He is still a teacher with the district," Dehnert said.

Attempts to contact Velez have been unsuccessful as of Tuesday afternoon.

"I would like to see the district and the school be consistent in their messaging and clean up this mismanagement that has caused so much distress in the community, in the kids," Kaur said.

Student-athletes of Rockwell are scheduled to host a food drive for the nonprofit Shepherd's Gate next Tuesday at Emerald in honor of their coach. ■

Public Notices

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)

SIRIUS THOUGHTWORKS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613019
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SIRIUS THOUGHTWORKS , located at 1061 Gray Fox Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ARUN KRISHNA
1061 Gray Fox Cir.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 07 2025.
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 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)

KABUNA KEEPSAKES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612648
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Kabuna Keepsakes , located at 3420 Andrews Dr. Apt 102 Pleasanton, CA 94588, Alameda County.

This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
KAITLIN HARTJOY
3420 Andrews, Dr Apt 102
Pleasanton, CA 94588
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/28/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 25 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

MAINE COONS OF FINN MANOR
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613021
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Maine Coons Of Finn Manor , located at 2508 Wilde Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94588, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JEFFREY FINN
2508 Wilde Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94588
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 March 07 2025.
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 2025)

DUFC
DUBLIN UNITED FC
DUBLIN UNITED
DUBLIN UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613031
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) DUFC , 2.) DUBLIN UNITED FC , 3.) DUBLIN UNITED , 4.) DUBLIN UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB , located at 6950 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568, Alameda County. Mailing Address: PO BOX 2485 Dublin, CA 94568
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
DUBLIN UNITED SOCCER LEAGUE
PO BOX 2485
Dublin, CA 94568
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January 1, 2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 07 2025.
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 2025)

BUSY LIZZI DESIGNS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612708
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) BUSY LIZZI DESIGNS , located at 3357 ROSADA CT., PLEASANTON, CA 94588, ALAMEDA County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
ELIZABETH CORONA
3357 ROSADA CT
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on February 17, 2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 26 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

BAY AREA ATHLETIC ASSIGNORS - VOLLEYBALL
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612509
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Bay Area Athletic Assignors - Volleyball , located at 4732 Herrin Way, 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):
WRIGHT CONSULTING SOLUTIONS LLC
4732 Herrin Way
Pleasanton CA 94588
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County

Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 18 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

PACKAGE UNIT PROS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612697
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Package Unit Pros , located at 28302 Industrial Blvd., Suite H, Hayward, CA 94545, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TIMELINE MEDIA INC.
28302 Industrial Blvd., Suite H
Hayward, CA 94545
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04-01-2013
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 26 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

RIDGE FOUNDRY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612769
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Ridge Foundry , located at 1554 Doolittle Drive San Leandro, CA 94577 , Amaleda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
RIDGE CAST METALS CORPORATION
1554 Doolittle Drive
San Leandro, CA 94577
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 27 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

NORCAL TECH PRO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612615
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) NORCAL TECH PRO , located at 1039 South Livermore Avenue Apt C Livermore, CA 94550, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
FERNANDO CALZADA
1039 South Livermore Avenue Apt. C
Livermore, CA 94550
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 02/01/2025
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 21 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 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)

TRUE TEMP SOLUTIONS
TRUE TEMP SOLUTIONS APPLIANCE REPAIR
TRUE TEMP SOLUTIONS HVAC REPAIR
TRUE TEMP SOLUTIONS HEATING AND COOLING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612764
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) True Temp Solutions , 2.) True Temp Solutions Appliance Repair , 3.) True Temp Solutions HVAC Repair , 4.) True Temp Solutions Heating And Cooling , located at 23992 Clawiter Rd, Hayward, CA 94545, Alameda County. Mailing Address: PO BOX 818 Burlingame, CA 94011.

This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
TRUE TEMP, INC.
PO BOX 818
Burlingame, CA 94011
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 February 27 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

H.D. PHOTOGRAPHY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612728
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) H.D. Photography , located at 22302 Center St #13, Castro Valley, CA 94546 , Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: an Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
HUAN DOAN
22302 Center St #13
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 27 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

NASCHMARKT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613000
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Naschmarkt , located at 310 Main St Suite B, Pleasanton CA, 94566, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PAIRINGS WINE AND BAR RESTAURANT INC.
310 Main St Suite B
Pleasanton CA, 94566
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on March 07 2025.
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 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)

PREMIUM PSYCHIATRIC CARE NURSING-PC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612470
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) PREMIUM PSYCHIATRIC CARE NURSING-PC , located at 4695 CHABOT DRIVE STE#200 PLEASANTON CA 94588, ALAMEDA County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PREMIUM PSYCHIATRIC CARE NURSING-PC
4695 CHABOT DRIVE STE #200
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
State of Incorporation/Organization: California
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/04/2024
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 13 2025.
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 2025)

SPARROW PACIFIC HOMES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612620
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) SPARROW PACIFIC HOMES , located at 5112 Grayhawk Ln, Dublin CA 94568, Alameda County.
This business is conducted by: a Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SPARROW PACIFIC REAL ESTATE INC.
5112 Grayhawk Ln
DUBLIN CA 94568
State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda on February 24 2025.
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 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)

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):
JEANEEN 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)

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)

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)

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)

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.: 24CV105077
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Ma Desiree Joy Collier filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
MA DESIREE JOY COLLIER to DESIREE JOY COLLIER
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 6, 2025, 9:30 a.m., Hayward Hall of Justice of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda located at 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544.
A copy of this ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county:

PLEASANTON WEEKLY
Date: February 13, 2025
Thomas Nixon
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 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.: 25CV111163
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: RUTH ANDREA CASTILLO FLORA filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
RUTH ANDREA CASTILLO FLORA to ANDREA CASTILLO
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 13, 2025, 09:30 A.M., 514 of the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA located at HAYWARD HALL OF JUSTICE CIVIL DIVISION, 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: 02/24/2025
Han Tran
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
(PLW Mar 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025)

The Pleasanton Weekly is adjudicated to publish in Alameda County.

- Fictitious Business Name
- Abandonment of Fictitious Business Name
- Name Change
- Partnership Withdrawal or Dissolution
- Petition to Administer Estate - Probate Hearing
- Notice of Bulk Sale
- Legal Summons
- Trustee Sale

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/legal_notices/

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

Calendar

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

Entertainment

HADDESTOWN: TEEN EDITION This intriguing and beautiful jazz-inflected folk musical delivers a deeply resonant and defiantly hopeful theatrical experience, following two intertwining love stories. March 14-16. Tickets \$25. Visit livermorearts.org.

ROBIN HOOD & 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/.

SCIENCE@PLAY - COPENHAGEN Michael Frayn's Copenhagen is a fictionalized account of a 1941 meeting between German physicist Werner Heisenberg and his former mentor, Danish physicist Niels Bohr. March 14-16. Tickets 35. Visit spartheater.org/tickets.

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING Broadway comes to Pleasanton in this unforgettable night of music, storytelling and entertainment, featuring Broadway-caliber performer Molly Bell, known for her fresh comedic storytelling and captivating stage presence. 7:30 p.m., March 14. Tickets \$33-\$43. Visit firehousearts.org.

VALLEY CONCERT CHORALE Join Valley Concert Chorale as their new artistic director, Joseph Castro, makes his debut. Hear gorgeous music and participate in a musical journey detailing the perseverance of the human spirit. 7:30 p.m., March 15, First Presbyterian Church, Livermore; 4 p.m., March 16, Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. Visit valleyconcertchorale.org.

YAMATO - THE DRUMMERS OF JAPAN Get ready for the electrifying energy of Yamato, the world-renowned Japanese Taiko drumming group known for their dynamic performances and powerful rhythms. 7:30 p.m., March 19; 10 a.m., March 20. Tickets \$25-\$85. Visit livermorearts.org.

BEATLES CONCERT EXPERIENCE This live musical performance recreates the look, sound and history of the Beatles, taking you back in time to

witness the Beatles' phenomenal rise to pop stardom. 7:30 p.m., March 21. Tickets \$69. Visit livermorearts.org.

REMEMBER: AN ANDY WILLIAMS MUSICAL TRIBUTE Experience the brilliance of tenor Johnny Orenberg as he remembers the life of legendary singer Andy Williams in this musical tribute that takes the audience on a sentimental journey through decades of classic standards. 7:30 p.m., March 21. Tickets \$45. Visit firehousearts.org.

SUEÑOS: OUR AMERICAN MUSICAL Set in the late 1990s in the San Francisco Bay Area, Sueños follows the story of an aspiring classical composer who dreams of attending Juilliard. March 21-23; 28-30. Tickets \$15-\$25. Las Positas College. Visit ipc.ludus.com/index.php.

DEL VALLE FINE ARTS - CURTIS ON TOUR Curtis on Tour, an initiative of the famed Curtis Institute of Music, promotes touring ensembles uniting extraordinary emerging artists in performance with celebrated alumni and faculty. 7:30 p.m., March 22. tickets \$35-\$57. Visit livermorearts.org.

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC COLLABORATIVE - ORIGINALITY The students in the Firehouse Arts Center's High School Music Collaborative feature their style of original music in this concert. 7 p.m., March 22. Tickets \$13. Visit firehousearts.org.

St. Pat's

MELODY MINSTRELS UKULELE PERFORMANCE Join this free Melody Minstrels Ukulele Performance in the Pleasanton Senior Center Main Hall. 12:15 p.m., March 14. RSVP to 925-931-5370.

ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST Enjoy a hot pancake and sausage breakfast served fresh off the griddle by Alameda County firefighters from Local 55 where funds raised are used to support charitable efforts. 7-10 a.m., March 15. Dublin Fire Station 16, 7494 Donohue Drive. \$5 per person.

DUBLIN'S 41ST ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE The parade begins at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza

Road. Guests are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets. 9:30 a.m., March 15.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREW CRAWL Downtown Pleasanton will turn green for the 12th annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl. Sip, stroll and shop downtown, where locations and breweries will pair up together for a fun and memorable night of beer tasting. 5-8 p.m., March 15. Tickets \$55.20. Visit pleasantondowntown.net.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL The St. Patrick's Day Festival includes three stages of Irish music and dance, an International food court and over 250 booths and carnival rides. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 15-16. Dublin Civic Center.

TEMPEST Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the high-energy sounds of Tempest, a band that's been rocking the Celtic music scene for over 30 years. 7 p.m., March 15. Tickets \$28-\$38. Visit firehousearts.org.

SHAMROCK 5K FUN RUN & WALK The City of Dublin's Annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk is an event for runners and walkers of all abilities. 8:30 a.m., March 16. To register visit dublin.ca.gov.

TÉADA - ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION Experience the globally acclaimed traditional band Téada known for their dynamic performances and reenergizing rare tunes. 7:30 p.m., March 17. Tickets \$25-\$60. Visit livermorearts.org.

Scholarships

PLEASANTON MASONIC LODGE The Pleasanton Masonic Lodge is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior at Amador Valley, Foothill or Village High School with a minimum 2.5 GPA, a record of volunteerism in their school or community, and will attend a trade/technical school, two-year community college or four-year university/college. Deadline April 7. Visit <https://bit.ly/4agSdqq>.

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE 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/.

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.

ROTARY CLUB 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.

Employment

The Pleasanton Weekly offers employment advertising.

The deadline is Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Visit PleasantonWeekly.com/employment_ads/.

For assistance email LegalNotices@PleasantonWeekly.com.

PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE MARKET UPDATE – SPRING IN FULL BLOOM

The Pleasanton real estate market saw a surge of activity in February, indicating we could be in for a very active Spring market. This despite interest rates remaining stubbornly high, although they have been drifting lower of late

Let's take a dive into the numbers for February:

Supply/Inventory: The inventory of available single-family homes increased 35% from January, with 58 homes for sale at the end of February, compared to 41 detached homes on the market at the end of January. This is also 45% higher than February of 2024. This is good news for home buyers who are hoping for more homes for sale this Spring.

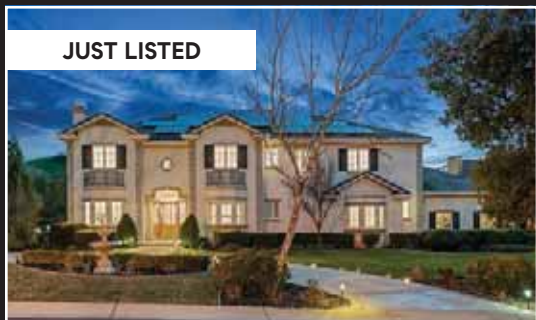
Demand: Pending sales (homes under contract) also increased, with 39 homes going under contract in February, up 50% from January and up 11% from last February. Closed sales in February were up as

Visit The680Blog.com to read the rest of this article.

Pleasanton Market Report

Data for February 2025
Single Family Detached Homes

	FEB 2025	CHANGE FROM JAN 2025	CHANGE FROM FEB 2024
Homes sold	29	+38%	+45%
Homes for sale	58	+33%	+32%
Median days on market	8	-11%	+14%
Median price per square foot	\$873	+3.8%	+0.2%
Months of inventory	2.0	+2.3%	-9.1%
Median sold price	\$1,625,000	+11%	+11%
Homes under contract	39	+50%	+11%



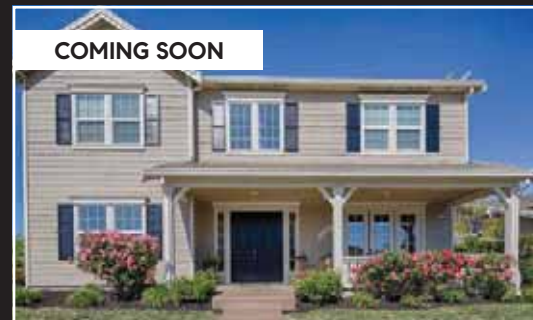
JUST LISTED

1734 Terra Ct
\$5,760,000 | 6 BR | 6.5 BTHS



JUST LISTED

1597 Genoa Dr
\$1,495,000 | 3 BR | 2 BTHS



COMING SOON

2193 Autinori Ct
\$2,300,000 | 5 BR | 4 BTHS



COMING SOON

Downtown Pleasanton
\$3,578,000 | 5 BR | 4.5 BTHS



PENDING SALE

3521 Valenza Way
\$2,650,000 | 4 Bed | 3 Bath



JUST SOLD

3062 W Ruby Hill Dr
\$6,690,000 | 6 Bed | 6.5 Bath

Visit 680Homes.com for Information on Our Current and Coming Soon Listings



680 | DOUG BUENZ GROUP

DOUG BUENZ

Broker Associate | DRE 00843458
925.463.2000 | Doug@680Homes.com

THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE.

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Number 01527235. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footages are approximate. Rules & Exclusions apply. Compass offers no guarantee or warranty of results. Subject to additional terms and conditions.

COMPASS



THE
**BLAISE LOFLAND
&
KELLY MCKAIG**

REAL ESTATE GROUP
CONNECTING PEOPLE & PROPERTY



Blaise Lofland
925.846.6500



Kelly Mckaig
925.364.0327



Jacinda Lofland
925.846.6500

blaise@blaiselofland.com

blaiselofland.com

DRE 00882113

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.



WE LIST, WE SELL, WE CLOSE!

PLEASANTON MEADOWS

3118 MONTEPELIER CT, PLEASANTON

4 BD | 2 BA | 1,701 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE
7,000 SQ. FT. LOT

Remodeled & Upgraded Single Level Home Owned by Original Family in Desirable Pleasanton Meadows with Cabana Club & Greenbelts, Premium Location That's Close to Everything! Located on Quiet Court with Private Backyard with No Rear Neighbors, Expansive Deck, Waterfall. Well-Maintained Tasteful Landscaping with Automatic Sprinklers. Recent 2024 & 2025 Upgrades Include: New Roof, New Flooring (Luxury Vinyl Plank & Carpet), New Interior Paint & Exterior Trim, New 6-Panel Doors, Upgraded Lighting, Upgraded Electrical Outlets & Switches. Other Upgrades: Remodeled Kitchen and Bathrooms, Upgraded Dual Pane Windows, Upgraded Baseboards, Walking Distance to Fairlands Elementary, Conveniently Close to East Pleasanton BART Station, Walking Distance to Several Parks, Conveniently Close to Livermore's SF Outlet Mall, Minutes to Livermore Valley Wineries, Enjoy both Nearby Pleasanton & Livermore Downtowns!

LISTED FOR \$1,675,800



**NEW LISTING
OPEN SAT 12-3 & SUN 1-4**

GOLDEN EAGLE

PLEASANTON



PENDING

7871 HONORS CT, PLEASANTON

3 BD | 2 BA | 2,520 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE | 6,931 SQ. FT. LOT

LISTED FOR \$1,868,000



SOLD

1382 VIA DI SALERNO, PLEASANTON

6 BD | 7 BA | 6,544 SQ. FT. LIVING SPACE | .69 ACRE LOT

SOLD FOR \$5,125,000 | REPRESENTED BUYERS

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another broker. The above information, is based on data received from public sources or third parties and has not be independently verified by the broker, Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty. If important to readers, readers are advised to verify information to their own satisfaction.

VENEMA HOMES

EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

MARCH MADNESS

The Ultimate Home Matchup - Which One Will You Choose?



OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday 2-4pm

4105 GRANT COURT
Offered at \$3,750,000

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday 2-4pm

669 SYLVANER DRIVE
Offered at \$1,895,000

OPEN HOUSE
Friday 10am-1pm
Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

2749 FOXGLOVE COURT
Offered at \$1,475,000

OPEN HOUSE
Friday 10am-1pm
Saturday & Sunday 1-4pm

1565 TRIMINGHAM DRIVE
Offered at \$1,299,000

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday & Sunday 2-4pm

309 LONE OAK DRIVE
Offered at \$1,499,000

COMING SOON

2434 POMINO WAY
Offered at \$3,598,000

A STUNNING TRANSFORMATION

Open Houses: Friday 10am-1pm, Saturday 1-6pm, & Sunday 1-4pm
Extended Open House Party Saturday 4-6pm With Food & Drinks



4 Bedrooms • 3 Bathrooms • 1,935 Sq. Ft. • .23 Acre Lot
From vision to reality, **Steve Venema**, CEO of the award-winning **Vista Construction Company, Inc.**, transformed this rare **single-story home in Vintage Hills** into a masterpiece. Renovated **top to bottom, inside and out**, every inch of **1087 Touriga Place** is brand **NEW, NEW, NEW**—blending modern elegance with timeless charm. More than just a renovation, this stunning home **elevates the neighborhood's value**, setting a new standard for luxury living. **Just Listed, Offered at \$1,995,000.**

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

Visit the open houses 3/15 & 16 from 1:00 to 4:00



4067 Nevis St., Pleasanton

A 3-bedroom 2-bath home with 1,471 sq ft and offering both a family room & living room areas. The home has been updated to offer the kitchen's open concept to the living room.

\$1,600,000



KRIS MOXLEY
REAL ESTATE

17360 Grand Island Rd., Walnut Grove, CA

A Waterfront Oasis on the Sacramento River
Welcome to a serene retreat nestled on a private island, where elegance meets tranquility that invites you to experience a harmonious blend of comfort and sophistication. The expansive living with vaulted ceilings enjoys a gas fireplace, panoramic views of the river, and 2 sets of floor-to-ceiling retracting glass doors opening to an open-air outdoor patio with amazing sunset views. Vacation every day as you enjoy 2 boat docks and the fresh deep waters of the river.

SUNSET ~ OPEN HOUSE 3/15 from 5:00 to 7:30
\$1,200,000



4770 Sutter Gate, Pleasanton

A spacious one story home with vaulted ceilings complimented with a spacious back yard and a side yard.

4 Bedrooms | 1,751 SqFt | 8,238 Lot
\$1,700,000



1189 Dana Cir., Livermore

A Tri-Level home all ready for the new owner with new flooring, interior paint and newer HVAC. A solar heated pool is enjoyed along with a spacious lawn and a pergola covered patio.

4 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths | 8,462 Lot
\$1,495,000



1194 Mateo Miller Cir., San Ramon

Built in 2023. Welcome to this new construction home. A detached home within the Preserve community offering panoramic views of the surrounding San Ramon hills. On the main entry level is a bedroom and full bath along with entry to the garage. The main level boasts the expansive living room with sliding glass doors to welcome you the patio. Rest here to enjoy those panoramic views.

4 bedrooms | 4 Baths | 2,833 SqFt
2 car garage plus a carport

OPEN HOUSE 3/15 & 16 from 1:00 to 4:00
\$2,250,000



Kris Moxley

925.519.9080

DRE 00790463

moxleyrealestate.com

kris@moxleyrealestate.com



COMPASS